

Introduced April 7, 2014  
Public Hearing April 21, 2014  
Council Action May 5, 2014  
Executive Action May 8, 2014  
Effective Date July 8, 2014

## County Council Of Howard County, Maryland

2014 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 4

Bill No. 13 - 2014

**Introduced by:**

Courtney Watson, Councilmember

**Co-sponsored by:**

Calvin Ball, Councilmember

Jennifer Terrasa, Councilmember

AN ACT requiring County Boards and Commissions and the Howard County Housing Commission to publicly post minutes and agendas of all open meetings; and generally relating to Boards and Commissions.

Introduced and read first time April 7, 2014. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order Sheila M. Tolliver  
Sheila Tolliver, Administrator

Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on April 21, 2014.

By order Sheila M. Tolliver  
Sheila Tolliver, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on May 5, 2014 and Passed     , Passed with amendments , Failed     .

By order Sheila M. Tolliver  
Sheila Tolliver, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2014 at 1:00 a.m./p.m.

By order Sheila M. Tolliver  
Sheila Tolliver, Administrator

Approved by the County Executive May 8, 2014

Ken Ulman  
Ken Ulman, County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN ALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; Strike-out indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.



1 **Section 1. Be It Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the  
2 *Howard County Code is amended as follows:*

3  
4 1. *By amending:*

5 *Title 6. County Executive and The Executive Branch*  
6 *Subtitle 3. Boards and Commissions*  
7 *Subsection 6.305. Meetings to be public.*

8  
9 2. *By amending:*

10 *Title 13. Housing and Community Development*  
11 *Subtitle 13. Howard County Housing Commission Articles of*  
12 *Incorporation*  
13 *Subsection 13.1308. Voting; meetings.*

14  
15  
16 **Title 6. County Executive and the Executive Branch**

17 **Subtitle 3. Boards and Commissions**

18  
19 **Sec. 6.305. Meetings to be public.**

20  
21 (a) *Open Meetings.* All meetings of Howard County Boards and  
22 Commissions shall be public meetings and open to the public at all times,  
23 except under circumstances in which a closed meeting is permitted by  
24 law. AGENDAS SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE AT LEAST THREE DAYS PRIOR  
25 TO THE MEETING IN AN ELECTRONIC MEDIUM READILY AVAILABLE TO THE  
26 PUBLIC. MINUTES OF OPEN MEETINGS SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE AS SOON  
27 AS PRACTICABLE IN AT LEAST ONE ELECTRONIC MEDIUM READILY  
28 AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.



1 (b) *Prohibition for Meeting on Certain Days.* All Howard County Boards and  
2 Commissions shall be prohibited from holding meetings which include an  
3 opportunity for public testimony on any day on which Rosh Hashanah,  
4 Yom Kippur, Eid Ul Fitr or Eid Ul Adha is observed.  
5

6 **Title 13. Housing and Community Development**

7 **Subtitle 13. Howard County Housing Commission Articles of Incorporation**  
8

9 **Sec. 13.1308. Voting; meetings.**

10 (a) *Quorum; Voting.* The powers of the Commission shall be vested in the  
11 Commissioners in office from time to time. For the purpose of conducting  
12 its business and exercising its powers and for all other purposes, four  
13 Commissioners shall constitute a quorum of the Commission. Action may  
14 be taken by the Commission upon vote of a majority of the  
15 Commissioners present at a meeting at which there is a quorum, unless the  
16 bylaws of the Commission require a larger number for a particular matter.  
17

18 (b) *Open Meetings.* The Commission shall meet in open session as required by  
19 the Open Meetings Law, section 10-501 et seq. of the State Government  
20 Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended. AGENDAS  
21 SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE AT LEAST ~~THREE~~-FIVE BUSINESS DAYS PRIOR TO  
22 THE MEETING IN AN ELECTRONIC MEDIUM READILY AVAILABLE TO THE  
23 PUBLIC. MINUTES OF OPEN MEETINGS SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE AS SOON  
24 AS PRACTICABLE IN AT LEAST ONE ELECTRONIC MEDIUM READILY  
25 AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.  
26

27 **Section 2. *And Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County,***  
28 ***Maryland, that this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.***



Amendment 1 to Council Bill No. 13- 2014

BY: Courtney Watson

Legislative Day No. 5

Date: May 5, 2014

Amendment No. 1

*(This amendment clarifies the number of days the Housing Commission has to post the agenda.)*

1 On page 2, in line 21, strike "THREE" and substitute "FIVE BUSINESS".

2

3

4

ADOPTED 5/5/2014  
FAILED \_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE Shanta Sullivan

ESTADO  
LIBRE  
ESTADO



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14 be taken by the Commission upon vote of a majority of the  
15 Commissioners present at a meeting at which there is a quorum, unless the  
16 bylaws of the Commission require a larger number for a particular matter.

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18 (b) *Open Meetings.* The Commission shall meet in open session as required  
19 by the Open Meetings Law, section 10-501 et seq. of the State  
20 Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended.  
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22 MEETING IN AN ELECTRONIC MEDIUM READILY AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.  
23 MINUTES OF OPEN MEETINGS SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE AS SOON AS  
24 PRACTICABLE IN AT LEAST ONE ELECTRONIC MEDIUM READILY AVAILABLE  
25 TO THE PUBLIC.

26  
27  
28 **Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County,**  
29 **Maryland, that this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.**



BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been approved by the Executive and returned to the Council, stands enacted on  
May 8, 2014.

Sheila M. Tolliver  
Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been passed by the yeas and nays of two-thirds of the members of the Council notwithstanding the objections of the Executive, stands enacted on \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having received neither the approval nor the disapproval of the Executive within ten days of its presentation, stands enacted on \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, not having been considered on final reading within the time required by Charter, stands failed for want of consideration on \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been disapproved by the Executive and having failed on passage upon consideration by the Council stands failed on \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, the withdrawal of which received a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Council, is withdrawn from further consideration on \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator to the County Council

