

Introduced _____
Public Hearing _____
Council Action _____
Executive Action _____
Effective Date _____

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2024 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 10

Bill No. 52 -2024

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: LGBTQIA+ Commission – Amendment to membership

Title: AN ACT amending the membership of the LGBTQIA+ Commission to add that up two members can work or attend school in the County; amending the appointment requirements for the college student; and generally relating to the LGBTQIA+ Commission.

Introduced and read first time _____, 2024. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order _____
Michelle Harrod, 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 _____, 2024.

By order _____
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on _____, 2024 and Passed ____, Passed with amendments _____, Failed _____.

By order _____
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this ___ day of _____, 2024 at ___ a.m./p.m.

By order _____
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Approved/Vetoed by the County Executive _____, 2024

Calvin Ball, County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL 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 following provisions of the Howard County Code are amended:

3

4 *Title 12. Health and Social Services.*

5 *Section 12.218 “General provisions; purpose; membership; method of*
6 *appointment; staffing; meetings; duties”.*

7

8

Title 12. Health and Social Services.

9

Subtitle 2. Human Rights.

10

11 **Section 12.218. General provisions; purpose; membership; method of appointment;**
12 **staffing; meetings; duties.**

13 (a) *General Provisions.* General provisions applicable to the Commission are set forth in
14 subtitle 3, "Boards and Commissions," of title 6, "County Executive and the Executive
15 Branch" of this Code.

16 (b) *Purpose.* The purpose of the Commission is to advance the values of diversity and
17 civility, and to continue to work with county agencies, non-profit organizations and other
18 interested community groups to facilitate an environment of inclusion, communication,
19 understanding, and respect through the County as a whole and within the LGBTQIA+
20 community.

21 (c) *Number of Members.* The Commission shall consist of a minimum of 15 members
22 and a maximum of 21 members.

23 (d) *Membership.* The Commission shall be comprised of:

24 (1) The following ex-officio [[member]]MEMBERS:

25 a. The Superintendent of the Howard County Public School System or the
26 Superintendent's designee; and

27 b. The President of Howard Community College or the President's Designee;
28 and

29 (2) The following appointed members, [[who]] WHERE UP TO TWO MEMBERS MAY
30 WORK OR ATTEND SCHOOL WITHIN THE COUNTY AND REMAINING MEMBERS shall
31 be residents of the County:

- 1 a. One representative from HopeWorks;
- 2 b. One representative from Grassroots or any similar entity who helps under-
- 3 resourced individuals and families;
- 4 c. One representative from the Human Rights Commission;
- 5 d. One representative from Community Allies of Rainbow Youth (CARY);
- 6 e. One representative from Parents, Families, & Friends of Lesbian & Gays
- 7 (PFLAG) of Howard County; AND
- 8 f. At least six representatives from the LGBTQIA+ community[[];].

9 (3) THE FOLLOWING APPOINTED STUDENT MEMBERS:

10 [[g.]]A. At least one HIGH SCHOOL student representative under the age of 19
11 who shall serve a term that runs from July 1 through June 30; and

12 [[h.]]B. At least one student ENROLLED IN A COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OR TRADE
13 SCHOOL [[who resides in Howard County and]] who RESIDES, WORKS OR
14 attends AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION IN [[a college or university]]
15 HOWARD COUNTY who shall serve a term that runs from July 1 through
16 June 30.

17 (e) *Method of Appointment.* Each appointed member shall be appointed by the County
18 Executive and confirmed by the County Council.

19 (f) *Executive Secretary and Other Staff.* The Administrator or the Administrator's
20 designee shall serve as the Executive Secretary of the Commission and shall attend all
21 meetings of the Commission and, in addition to the duties specified in this subtitle, shall
22 perform duties as prescribed by the Commission. The County Executive may also
23 designate a county employee to serve as a liaison to the Commission.

24 (g) *Meetings.* The Commission shall meet at least quarterly.

25 (h) *Duties.* The Commission shall:

- 26 (1) Support efforts to organize, educate, and mobilize the LGBTQIA+ community
27 through coalition building and coordination with allied individuals, groups, and
28 organizations;
- 29 (2) Work with Howard County Government Departments and Offices to identify
30 best practices to affirm members of the LGBTQIA+ community;
- 31 (3) Recommend initiatives to support LGBTQIA+ families and children;

- 1 (4) Advise the County Executive and County Council on policy and programs
2 impacting Howard County, and on sexual orientation and gender identity
3 training with emphasis on non-binary and transgender identities;
- 4 (5) Advise the County Executive and County Council on policy and programs to
5 improve outcomes for underserved and at-risk segments of the LGBTQIA+
6 population, including youth, communities of color, non-English speakers,
7 seniors, and immigrants; and
- 8 (6) Support, plan and execute programs and events to celebrate and affirm the
9 LGBTQIA+ community.
- 10 (i) *Annual Report.* On or before February 28 of each year, the Commission shall submit
11 an annual report which shall comply with the requirements of section 22.1000 of this
12 Code to the County Council and the County Executive on its activities during the
13 previous calendar year. The report may include recommendations on any matter related
14 to the work of the Commission.

15

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