

# HOUSE BILL 2014

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By: **Delegate Fennell**

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2026

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections and Health

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **ITO Testing**

3 FOR the purpose of ITO Testing

4 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
5 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

6 **Article – Election Law**

7 2–201.

8 (a) (1) There is a county board of elections in each county of the State.

9 (2) Each local board and its staff is subject to the direction and authority  
10 of the State Board and is accountable to the State Board for its actions in all matters  
11 regarding the implementation of the requirements of this article and any applicable federal  
12 law.

13 (b) (1) (i) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection,  
14 each local board consists of five regular members.

15 (ii) Three regular members shall be of the majority party, and two  
16 regular members shall be of the principal minority party.

17 (2) (i) In Prince George’s County, the local board consists of five regular  
18 members and three substitute members.

19 (ii) Four regular members and two substitute members shall be of  
20 the majority party, and one regular member and one substitute member shall be of the  
21 principal minority party.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           (3)   (i)    In Montgomery County, the local board consists of five regular  
2 members and two substitute members.

3                       (ii)   Three regular members and one substitute member shall be of  
4 the majority party, and two regular members and one substitute member shall be of the  
5 principal minority party.

6           (c)    Each regular member of a local board and each substitute member of a local  
7 board shall:

8                       (1)    be appointed in accordance with subsection (g) of this section;

9                       (2)    be a registered voter in the county for which the individual is appointed  
10 for the 5 years immediately preceding the appointment; and

11                      (3)    be eligible for reappointment.

12           (d)    (1)    The term of a member is 4 years and begins on the first Monday in June  
13 of each year following a gubernatorial election.

14                      (2)    At the end of a term, a member continues to serve until a successor is  
15 appointed and qualifies.

16           (e)    Before taking office, a member shall take and subscribe to the oath prescribed  
17 in Article I, § 9 of the Maryland Constitution.

18           (f)    The Governor may remove a member for incompetence, misconduct, or other  
19 good cause, upon written charges stating the Governor's grounds for dismissal and after  
20 affording the member notice and an ample opportunity to be heard.

21           (g)    (1)    The Governor shall request the county central committee representing  
22 the majority party or the principal minority party, as appropriate, to submit a list of at  
23 least four eligible individuals from which the Governor may make an appointment of a  
24 regular member of a local board or a substitute member of the local board.

25                      (2)    The Governor may reject all of the nominees if the Governor determines  
26 them to be unfit or incompetent, in which case the Governor shall notify the State Board in  
27 writing and request an additional list of at least four eligible nominees from the county  
28 central committee. A third list may be requested in the same manner.

29                      (3)    If a list containing the names of four eligible nominees is not submitted  
30 within 20 days of a request or if all the nominees on three lists are rejected, the Governor  
31 may appoint any eligible person who is a member of the appropriate political party.

32                      (4)    (i)    Except as provided in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, each  
33 appointment shall be subject to confirmation by the Senate of Maryland.

1                   (ii)     In Caroline, Dorchester, and Kent counties, if there is no resident  
2 Senator of the particular county, the confirmation required under subparagraph (i) of this  
3 paragraph shall be by the House of Delegates of Maryland.

4                   (iii)    If an appointee is rejected, the Governor shall make another  
5 appointment from the list or lists submitted under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection.  
6 If a list is not provided, or the nominees on three lists are rejected, the Governor may  
7 appoint an eligible individual as provided in paragraph (3) of this subsection.

8           (h)     (1)     Except in Montgomery County and Prince George's County, if a vacancy  
9 occurs on the local board, the Governor shall appoint an eligible person from the same  
10 political party as the predecessor member to fill the vacancy in accordance with subsection  
11 (g) of this section for the remainder of the unexpired term and until a successor is appointed  
12 and qualifies.

13                   (2)     An appointment made while the General Assembly is not in session  
14 shall be considered temporary until the appointee is confirmed by the General Assembly.

15           (i)     (1)     This subsection applies only in Montgomery County and Prince  
16 George's County.

17                   (2)     In the event of the absence of a regular member or a vacancy in the  
18 office of a regular member, the substitute member of the same political party shall exercise  
19 the powers and duties of a regular member until the regular member returns or the vacancy  
20 is filled as prescribed in this subsection.

21                   (3)     Subject to paragraph (4) of this subsection, if a member of a local board  
22 dies, resigns, is removed, or becomes ineligible:

23                           (i)     the substitute member belonging to the same political party shall  
24 become a regular member of the local board; and

25                           (ii)    the Governor shall appoint an eligible person from the same  
26 political party to be the new substitute member.

27                   (4)     In Prince George's County, if a vacancy occurs on the local board among  
28 the members from the majority party, the Governor shall designate one of the substitute  
29 members from that party to fill the vacancy.

30                   (5)     If a substitute member of a local board becomes a regular member as  
31 provided in paragraph (3)(i) of this subsection, dies, resigns, is removed, or becomes  
32 ineligible when the confirming legislative body is not in session, the Governor shall appoint  
33 an eligible person from the same political party as the predecessor substitute member to  
34 fill the vacancy. That individual shall serve until the earlier of:

35                           (i)     the adjournment of the next session of the General Assembly; or

1 (ii) the appointment of another individual to fill the same vacancy.

2 (j) A board shall meet within 20 days after the beginning of the term to elect one  
3 of its regular members as president.

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
5 October 1, 2026.