

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2026 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Third Reader - Revised**

Senate Bill 260  
Finance

(Senator Jackson)

Health

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**Maryland Health Care Commission - Membership**

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This bill alters the membership of the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) by (1) reducing, from nine to eight, the number of members who do not have any connection with the management or policy of a health care provider or payor and (2) requiring one member to be an administrator of a hospital. When appointing members of the commission, the Governor must assure that at least four (rather than five) members are residents of different counties with a population of 300,000 or more.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. Altering the membership of the commission does not directly affect governmental finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** MHCC is an independent commission within the Maryland Department of Health with a mission to plan for health system needs, promote informed decision making, increase accountability, and improve access in a rapidly changing health care environment by providing timely and accurate information on availability, cost, and quality of services to policymakers, purchasers, providers, and the public.

The commission consists of 15 members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. Of the 15 members:

- nine must be individuals who do not have any connection with the management or policy of a health care provider or payor; and
- of the remaining six members: (1) two must be physicians; (2) two must be payors; (3) one must be a nursing home administrator; and (4) one must be a nonphysician health care practitioner.

When appointing members to the commission, the Governor must assure that at least five members are residents of different counties with a population of 300,000 or more and at least three members are residents of different counties with a population less than 300,000, as specified. To the extent practicable, the Governor must assure geographic balance and promote racial, ethnic, and gender diversity in the commission's membership.

The term of a member is four years; members may not serve more than two consecutive terms. At the end of a term, a member continues to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies. The Governor may remove a member for neglect of duty, incompetence, or misconduct.

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### **Additional Information**

**Recent Prior Introductions:** Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

**Designated Cross File:** HB 322 (Delegate Kerr, *et al.*) - Health.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland Department of Health; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - January 28, 2026  
jg/jc Third Reader - March 16, 2026  
Revised - Amendment(s) - March 16, 2026

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