

SENATE BILL 535

F5

(6lr2025)

ENROLLED BILL

— *Education, Energy, and the Environment/Ways and Means* —

Introduced by **Senator King**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

_____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **County Boards of Library Trustees – Membership – Student Member**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a county board of library trustees to provide for the
4 selection of a student member of the board; establishing the qualifications, term of
5 office, and voting rights of the student member of a county board of library trustees,
6 if selected; and generally relating to the membership of county boards of library
7 trustees.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

9 Article – Education

10 Section 23–403 and 23–404

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



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

3 **Article – Education**

4 23–403.

5 (a) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (3) of this subsection **AND**
6 **SUBSECTION (G) OF THIS SECTION**, each board of library trustees consists of seven
7 **APPOINTED** members appointed by the county governing body from nominees submitted
8 by the board of library trustees.

9 (2) A board that existed before 1945 under a corporate charter may
10 continue as constituted if:

11 (i) It has at least seven **APPOINTED** members;

12 (ii) The **APPOINTED** members are chosen on the basis of character,
13 ability, and demonstrated interest in library matters; and

14 (iii) The **APPOINTED** members meet the qualifications required
15 under subsection (b) of this section.

16 (3) In Harford County, the Board of Trustees consists of at least 7
17 **APPOINTED** members, but not more than 11 **APPOINTED** members, appointed by the
18 county governing body from nominees submitted by the Board of Trustees.

19 (b) The **APPOINTED** members of the board shall be:

20 (1) Representative of the area the library serves; and

21 (2) Residents of the county that the library serves.

22 (c) (1) **(I)** Except as provided in subsections (d) and (e) of this section, [a]
23 **AN APPOINTED** member of a board serves for a term of 5 years and until a successor is
24 appointed and qualifies.

25 **(II)** [These] **THE terms OF THE APPOINTED MEMBERS** are
26 staggered as required by the terms of the **APPOINTED** members serving on the board as of
27 July 1, 1978.

28 (2) Except as provided in paragraph (4) of this subsection, [a] **AN**
29 **APPOINTED** member may be reappointed but may not serve more than two consecutive
30 terms.

1 (3) [A] AN APPOINTED member appointed to fill a vacancy in an
2 unexpired term:

3 (i) Serves only for the remainder of that term and until a successor
4 is appointed and qualifies; and

5 (ii) Is eligible for appointment to serve two additional consecutive
6 terms.

7 (4) [A] AN APPOINTED member of the Board of the Prince George's
8 County Memorial Library System may serve an unlimited number of consecutive terms of
9 office.

10 (d) In Charles County, [a] AN APPOINTED member of the Board serves for a term
11 of 4 years.

12 (e) In Harford County, [a] AN APPOINTED member of the Board serves for a term
13 of 5 years, beginning on July 1, and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

14 (f) Each member of a board serves without compensation.

15 (G) (1) A BOARD MAY PROVIDE FOR THE SELECTION OF A STUDENT
16 MEMBER OF THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBSECTION.

17 (2) A STUDENT MEMBER SHALL BE SELECTED BY A PROCESS
18 ESTABLISHED BY THE BOARD.

19 (3) THE STUDENT MEMBER OF A BOARD SHALL:

20 (i) BE A JUNIOR OR SENIOR YEAR STUDENT ENROLLED IN A
21 PUBLIC OR NONPUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL OR A HOME INSTRUCTION PROGRAM IN THE
22 COUNTY THAT THE LIBRARY SERVES, WHO IS OF GOOD CHARACTER AND, IN THE
23 CASE OF A STUDENT ENROLLED IN A PUBLIC OR NONPUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL, IS IN
24 GOOD STANDING IN THE STUDENT'S HIGH SCHOOL;

25 (ii) BE SELECTED IN THE STUDENT'S SOPHOMORE OR JUNIOR
26 YEAR BY A METHOD ESTABLISHED BY THE BOARD;

27 (iii) HAVE AN INTEREST IN LIBRARY MATTERS; AND

28 (iv) SERVE A TERM OF 1 YEAR.

29 (4) A STUDENT MEMBER SELECTED TO FILL A VACANCY IN AN
30 UNEXPIRED TERM:

1 **(I) SERVES ONLY FOR THE REMAINDER OF THAT TERM AND**
2 **UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS SELECTED AND QUALIFIES; AND**

3 **(II) IS ELIGIBLE FOR SELECTION FOR A FULL TERM IF THE**
4 **STUDENT MEETS THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS UNDER PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS**
5 **SUBSECTION.**

6 **(5) (I) SUBJECT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, A**
7 **STUDENT MEMBER OF A BOARD MAY VOTE ON ALL POLICY MATTERS BEFORE THE**
8 **BOARD.**

9 **(II) A BOARD MAY ADOPT A POLICY OR BYLAW TO AUTHORIZE A**
10 **STUDENT MEMBER TO VOTE ON ADDITIONAL NONPOLICY MATTERS BEFORE THE**
11 **BOARD.**

12 23-404.

13 (a) Each year, each board of library trustees:

14 (1) Shall elect one of its **APPOINTED** members as its [chairman] **CHAIR;**
15 and

16 (2) May elect any other officer it requires **FROM AMONG THE APPOINTED**
17 **MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.**

18 (b) The treasurer of each board of library trustees shall be bonded adequately.

19 (c) Each board of library trustees may determine the time and place of its
20 meetings and may adopt rules for the conduct of its meetings. However:

21 (1) Each board shall meet at least once every 3 months;

22 (2) Any final action of a board shall be taken at a public meeting; and

23 (3) The minutes of board meetings shall be open to the public.

24 (d) (1) Any member of a board of library trustees who fails to attend at least
25 half of the scheduled meetings of the board during any calendar year shall be considered to
26 have resigned from the board.

27 (2) The [chairman] **CHAIR** of the board of library trustees shall report the
28 member's name and nonattendance to the county governing body by January 15 of the
29 following year.

1 (3) The county governing body may reject the resignation if the member
2 explains his nonattendance satisfactorily.

3 (4) The resignation is effective from the date of the final review by the
4 county governing body, which shall be within 10 days after it receives the report from the
5 [chairman] **CHAIR** of the board of library trustees. The county governing body shall fill any
6 resulting vacancy as provided in § 23–403 of this subtitle.

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
8 1, 2026.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.