

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2022 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 535

(Prince George's County Delegation and Montgomery
County Delegation)

Environment and Transportation

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Washington Suburban Transit Commission - Montgomery County and Prince
George's County Commissioners - Repeal of Term Limit
PG/MC 111-22

This bill authorizes the members of the Washington Suburban Transit Commission (WSTC) that are appointed by the County Executive of Montgomery County and the member appointed by the County Executive of Prince George's County who is not the required member from the Prince George's County Council to serve more than two consecutive terms. As a result, only the members appointed by the Governor are prohibited from serving more than two consecutive terms. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2022.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not directly affect State operations or finances.

Local Effect: The bill does not materially affect local government operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: WSTC is responsible for administering the Washington Suburban Transit District and is authorized to develop a transportation system, including mass transit facilities, for Montgomery and Prince George's counties. It coordinates mass transit programs with the two county governments, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), and the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT). MDOT

provides annual operating grants to WSTC, which then provides funding to WMATA for the operation of the Metrorail, Metrobus, and MetroAccess systems.

The commission consists of seven members: two appointed by the County Executive of Montgomery County; two appointed by the County Executive of Prince George's County; two appointed by the Governor; and one that is the Secretary of Transportation as an *ex officio* member. At least one commissioner from Prince George's County must be appointed from among the members of the Prince George's County Council.

Other than the required member from the Prince George's County Council, commissioners serve for a term of four years and may not serve more than two consecutive terms. The commissioner required from the Prince George's County Council serves while a member of the county council and at the pleasure of the County Executive and the Prince George's County Council.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Transportation; Prince George's County; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 4, 2022
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Revised - Amendment(s) - March 30, 2022
Revised - Clarification - March 30, 2022

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