

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2025 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 1065

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

Environment and Transportation

Education, Energy, and the Environment

Prince George's County - Board of Appeals - Membership
MC/PG 106-25

This bill clarifies that the Prince George's County Council must appoint *at least* three members to the board of appeals in the county, and that *a simple majority* of board members, instead of at least two members, must concur in any resolution.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Prince George's County expenditures may increase, beginning in FY 2026, to the extent that additional members are added to the board of appeals. Prince George's County revenues are not affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Under Division I of the Land Use Article, legislative bodies, the elected body of a local jurisdiction, including the county council, enact zoning ordinances and regulations and must appoint a board of appeals, that may, among other things, hear and decide special exceptions to, and authorize a variance from, the terms of a local law.

Prince George's County Council

Current law relating to zoning stipulates that the Prince George's County Council is the district council for that portion of the regional district located in Prince George's County. Among other things, the district council may, as specified, adopt or amend the text of zoning law for the county and may adopt and amend any map accompanying the text of the zoning law for that county.

Prince George's County Board of Appeals

In Prince George's County, there is a board of appeals that consists of three members, appointed by the county council, who serve for a term of four years. Each member of the board must be a resident of the regional district in Prince George's County. The county council must provide staff for the board. The board acts by resolution, and at least two members must concur with a resolution to enact it.

Local Expenditures: Prince George's County advises that the fiscal 2025 budget includes \$102,000 for the board of appeals. Specifically, \$49,800 for stipends, \$14,700 for fringe benefits, and \$37,500 for operating expenses. Prince George's County expenditures increase, beginning in fiscal 2026, to the extent that additional members are added to the board.

Additional Information

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

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Montgomery and Prince George's counties; Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 23, 2025
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