

Education Elections and Housing Committee
Bill Summary
February 14, 2020

Title: MC 1-20 Montgomery County – Housing Opportunities Commission – Selection of Chair

Sponsor(s): Montgomery County Delegation

Bill Summary: This bill requires the County Executive to select the chair of the Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC) that alters the procedure for establishing the chair.

Background: State law establishes HOC as a public body corporate and politic that exercises public and essential governmental functions and has all the powers necessary and convenient to carry out the purposes of Division II of the Housing and Community Development Article, which governs local housing authorities.

HOC is the public housing agency for Montgomery County that administers federal, State, county and private affordable housing programs. In addition, it develops housing, provides mortgage financing to developers and first-time homebuyers, manages public housing and other rental units, administers rental subsidy programs (including the Housing Choice Voucher Program), and provides counseling and support services to lower-income individuals and families in assisted housing.

According to the bylaws published on the HOC website, the Chair, Vice-Chair, and Chair Pro Tem are elected annually from among the Commissioners at the annual meeting. The term of the Chair is one year or until the successors are elected and qualified.

Previous Introduction: None.

Amendments: Delegate Shetty offers an amendment that requires the County Council to approve the County Executive's selection of the Chair.