

HOUSE BILL 1356

N1, G1

4lr0734
CF 4lr3234

By: **Howard County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2024

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Candidates for Village Board or Columbia Council in a Village of Columbia –**
3 **Reports of Donations and Disbursements**

4 **Ho. Co. 10–24**

5 FOR the purpose of requiring each village community association for a village of Columbia
6 to require each candidate for election to the village board or the Columbia Council
7 who receives donations or makes disbursements to file reports of the donations and
8 disbursements with the village community association; requiring each village
9 community association to make the reports of donations and disbursements available
10 to the public; prohibiting a candidate for election to a village board or the Columbia
11 Council who is elected from taking office if the candidate has failed to file a report of
12 donations and disbursements; and generally relating to reports of donations and
13 disbursements by candidates for village board or Columbia Council in a village of
14 Columbia.

15 BY adding to
16 Article – Real Property
17 Section 11B–106.3
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2023 Replacement Volume)

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

22 **Article – Real Property**

23 **11B–106.3.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
2 INDICATED.

3 (2) “DISBURSEMENT” MEANS AN EXPENDITURE, A GIFT, A TRANSFER,
4 OR A PROMISE OF MONEY OR ANY OTHER THING OF VALUE BY A CANDIDATE TO
5 PROMOTE THE ELECTION OF THE CANDIDATE.

6 (3) “DONATION” MEANS THE GIFT, TRANSFER, OR PROMISE OF GIFT
7 OR TRANSFER OF MONEY OR OTHER THING OF VALUE TO A CANDIDATE TO PROMOTE
8 THE ELECTION OF THE CANDIDATE.

9 (4) “VILLAGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION” MEANS A VILLAGE
10 COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION FOR A VILLAGE OF COLUMBIA IN HOWARD COUNTY.

11 (B) THIS SECTION APPLIES NOTWITHSTANDING THE ARTICLES OF
12 INCORPORATION, BYLAWS, RULES, OR ANY OTHER GOVERNING DOCUMENT OF A
13 VILLAGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION.

14 (C) EACH VILLAGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION SHALL REQUIRE EACH
15 CANDIDATE FOR ELECTION TO THE VILLAGE BOARD OR THE COLUMBIA COUNCIL
16 WHO RECEIVES DONATIONS OR MAKES DISBURSEMENTS TO FILE REPORTS OF THE
17 DONATIONS AND DISBURSEMENTS WITH THE VILLAGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION.

18 (D) EACH VILLAGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION SHALL:

19 (1) MAKE THE REPORTS OF DONATIONS AND DISBURSEMENTS FILED
20 UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION PUBLICLY AVAILABLE ON THE VILLAGE
21 COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION’S WEBSITE; AND

22 (2) PROVIDE THE REPORTS OF DONATIONS AND DISBURSEMENTS
23 FILED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION TO A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC ON
24 REQUEST.

25 (E) (1) A CANDIDATE FOR ELECTION TO A VILLAGE BOARD OR THE
26 COLUMBIA COUNCIL WHO IS ELECTED MAY NOT TAKE OFFICE IF THE CANDIDATE
27 HAS FAILED TO FILE A REPORT OF DONATIONS AND DISBURSEMENTS REQUIRED
28 UNDER THIS SECTION.

29 (2) A VILLAGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION HAS EXCLUSIVE
30 AUTHORITY TO DETERMINE WHETHER A CANDIDATE HAS PROPERLY FILED A
31 REPORT OF DONATIONS AND DISBURSEMENTS AND MAY TAKE OFFICE UNDER
32 PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

1 **(F) EACH VILLAGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MAY ADOPT ANY PROVISION**
2 **NECESSARY TO ADMINISTER AND ENFORCE THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.**

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
4 1, 2024.