

## Chapter 16

(Senate Bill 85)

AN ACT concerning

### **Election Law – Baltimore County Republican Party Central Committee – Election of Chairman**

FOR the purpose of requiring the Chairman of the Baltimore County Republican Party Central Committee to be elected by the members of the central committee from among its members and in accordance with its bylaws instead of being elected at large; altering the number of members of the central committee; and generally relating to the election of the Chairman of the Baltimore County Republican Party Central Committee.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Election Law  
Section 4–202 and 4–203(c)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2010 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

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

#### **Article – Election Law**

4–202.

(a) (1) A principal political party shall elect the members of the county central committee at a primary election.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this section or § 4–203 of this subtitle, the central committee for a county shall consist of the number of members determined by the party's constitution.

(b) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the party central committee for each county shall select the chairman of that county's party central committee.

(2) In Baltimore County, the Chairman of the Republican Party Central Committee shall be elected [at large] **BY THE MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE FROM AMONG ITS MEMBERS AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS BYLAWS.**

(c) (1) An individual elected to serve as a member of a party central committee shall be a resident of the county in which that central committee is located.

(2) (i) An individual elected from a county who ceases to reside in that county shall be considered to have resigned and may not continue to serve on the central committee.

(ii) An individual elected from a specific legislative district who ceases to reside in that district shall be considered to have resigned and may not continue to serve on the central committee.

(d) (1) (i) An individual selected to fill a vacancy in a party central committee shall be a resident of the county in which that central committee is located.

(ii) An individual selected to fill a vacancy of a member elected from a specific legislative district in a party central committee shall be a resident of that legislative district.

(2) Upon relinquishing residency in the county or legislative district in which a member of a party central committee was selected to fill a vacancy, the member shall be considered to have resigned.

(e) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a vacancy in the party central committee for a county, or for a legislative district of Baltimore City, Anne Arundel County, or Baltimore County, shall be filled by the remaining members of the committee elected from that county or legislative district.

(2) If a political party does not have county central committees or central committees for legislative districts, vacancies shall be filled in accordance with party rules.

(f) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the tenure in office of a member of the central committee of any political party shall:

(i) begin at the time the results of that election are certified;  
and

(ii) continue to the extent of any extension in time between primary elections by reason of any change in the date of holding primary elections by a political party in the State.

(2) The tenure in office of a member of the Republican Party Central Committee shall begin on the 14th day following the gubernatorial general election.

(3) For purposes of this subsection, upon relinquishing residency in the county, a member of a party central committee shall be considered to have resigned.

4–203.

(c) (1) [Except as provided in paragraph (2)(ii) of this subsection, in] IN Baltimore County, [members of the party central committees may not run at large.

(2) The] THE Republican Party Central Committee shall consist of[:

(i) four members elected from each councilmanic district in the county[; and

(ii) a chairman elected from the county at large].

[(3)] (2) For the Baltimore County Democratic Party Central Committee:

(i) twenty–five members, five from each district, shall be elected from legislative districts 6, 8, 10, 11, and 42, each district being located wholly within Baltimore County;

(ii) two members shall be elected from that part of legislative district 5 that is located in Baltimore County;

(iii) four members shall be elected from that part of legislative district 7 that is located in Baltimore County; and

(iv) four members shall be elected from that part of legislative district 12 that is located in Baltimore County.

[(4)] (3) Only individuals affiliated with the Democratic Party and who are registered to vote in Baltimore County may vote for the election of members to the Baltimore County Democratic Party Central Committee under this section.

[(5)] (4) The number of Democratic Party Central Committee members to be elected from each legislative district, or portion of legislative district, in Baltimore County shall be determined upon completion of each legislative districting.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2012.

**Approved by the Governor, April 10, 2012.**