

Bill No.: _____
Requested: _____
Committee: _____

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By: **Prince George’s County Delegation and Montgomery County Delegation**

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Bicounty Commissions – Ethics – Certification of Compliance**

3 **PG/MC 103–22**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring each bicounty commission to certify to the Ethics Commission
5 that the bicounty commission is in compliance with requirements relating to conflicts
6 of interest, financial disclosure, and lobbying; and generally relating to bicounty
7 commissions and ethics.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – General Provisions
10 Section 5–823, 5–829, and 5–830
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – General Provisions**

16 5–823.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (a) Each bicounty commission shall adopt regulations relating to conflicts of
2 interest of its employees.

3 (b) At a minimum, the conflict of interest standards applicable to public officials
4 under Subtitle 5 of this title shall apply to the employees of each bicounty commission.

5 (c) Each bicounty commission shall file with the Ethics Commission a copy of its
6 regulations relating to conflicts of interest.

7 (d) On or before April 30 each year, each bicounty commission shall:

8 (1) (I) prepare an annual report on its conflict of interest issues and
9 regulations during the previous calendar year;

10 [(2)] (II) submit the report to the governing body of each county in which
11 the bicounty commission operates; and

12 [(3)] (III) publish the report on the website of the bicounty commission;

13 **AND**

14 **(2) CERTIFY TO THE ETHICS COMMISSION THAT THE BICOUNTY**
15 **COMMISSION IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.**

16 5–829.

17 (a) Each bicounty commission shall adopt regulations relating to financial
18 disclosure by its employees.

19 (b) The regulations required by this section:

20 (1) shall be substantially similar to the State financial disclosure
21 provisions of Subtitle 6 of this title; and

22 (2) may not conflict with the financial disclosure provisions for
23 commissioners and applicants specified in §§ 5–824 through 5–828 of this subtitle.

24 (c) Each bicounty commission shall submit the regulations adopted under this
25 section, and any amendments to the regulations, to:

1 (1) the Ethics Commission; and

2 (2) the governing body of each county in which the bicounty commission
3 operates.

4 **(D) ON OR BEFORE APRIL 30 EACH YEAR, EACH BICOUNTY COMMISSION**
5 **SHALL CERTIFY TO THE ETHICS COMMISSION THAT THE BICOUNTY COMMISSION IS**
6 **IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.**

7 5-830.

8 (a) Each bicounty commission shall adopt regulations relating to lobbying of that
9 bicounty commission.

10 (b) At a minimum, the regulations adopted by a bicounty commission shall be
11 similar to the provisions of Subtitle 7 of this title.

12 (c) Each bicounty commission shall submit to the Ethics Commission a copy of its
13 regulations relating to lobbying.

14 (d) On or before April 30 each year, each bicounty commission shall:

15 (1) **(I)** prepare an annual report on the lobbying before the bicounty
16 commission and regulation of that lobbying by the bicounty commission for the previous
17 calendar year;

18 **[(2)] (II)** submit the report to the governing body of each county in which
19 the bicounty commission operates; and

20 **[(3)] (III)** publish the report on the website of the bicounty commission;
21 **AND**

22 **(2) CERTIFY TO THE ETHICS COMMISSION THAT THE BICOUNTY**
23 **COMMISSION IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.**

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
25 October 1, 2022.