G1, P5 7lr0835

Bill No.: _____
Requested: _____
Committee: _____

Drafted by: Babich
Typed by: Erika
Stored – 10/21/26
Proofread by _____
Checked by _____

By: **Prince George's County Delegation**

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Prince George's County – Political Party Central Committee – Procedures for Filling General Assembly Vacancy

PG 404–27

FOR the purpose of limiting, except under certain circumstances, the members of a central committee in Prince George's County who may vote to select an individual to fill a vacancy in the office of Senator or Delegate representing Prince George's County in the General Assembly to the members of the central committee who were elected by the eligible voters of the legislative district with the vacancy; requiring the vote to be held by secret ballot; and generally relating to the procedures in Prince George's County for filling a vacancy in the General Assembly.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Election Law
Section 4–101
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2026 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Election Law
Section 4–206

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

Annotated Code of Maryland
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2026 Supplement)

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

Article – Election Law

4–101.

Except as to a matter of compelling State interest **OR WITH RESPECT TO A CONFLICT WITH § 4–206 OF THIS TITLE**, if any provision of this title relating to party governance conflicts with the constitution and bylaws of a political party, the constitution and bylaws shall apply to the extent of the conflict.

4–206.

(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY TO THE PROCESS OF FILLING A VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF SENATOR OR DELEGATE REPRESENTING PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY UNDER ARTICLE III, § 13 OF THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION.

(B) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, ONLY THE MEMBERS OF A CENTRAL COMMITTEE WHO WERE ELECTED UNDER § 4–203(G)(1)(I)2 OR (2)(II)1 OF THIS SUBTITLE BY THE ELIGIBLE VOTERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT WITH A VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF SENATOR OR DELEGATE IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY VOTE TO SELECT AN INDIVIDUAL TO FILL THE VACANCY.

(2) IF, AT THE TIME OF THE VOTE, THERE ARE NO MEMBERS OF A CENTRAL COMMITTEE WHO WERE ELECTED BY THE ELIGIBLE VOTERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT WITH A VACANCY, ALL OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MAY VOTE TO CHOOSE AN INDIVIDUAL TO FILL THE VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF SENATOR OR DELEGATE IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

(C) IF THERE IS A TIE FOR THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF VOTES IN A VOTE CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE SHALL SUBMIT TO THE GOVERNOR FOR THE GOVERNOR'S

SELECTION THE NAMES OF ALL OF THE INDIVIDUALS WHO TIED FOR THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF VOTES.

(D) A VOTE HELD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONDUCTED BY SECRET BALLOT.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2027.