

# HOUSE BILL 1303

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By: **Delegates Grossman and Kaufman**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2024

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Local Boards of Elections – Compensation**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring that regular and substitute members of local boards of  
4 elections be paid certain amounts per day served for the canvass, election day, and  
5 in connection with a contested election; requiring a county to pay a regular member  
6 a certain amount if the amount of compensation paid during a fiscal year for service  
7 during the canvass, election day, and in connection with a contested election is less  
8 than a certain minimum annual amount; and generally relating to compensation for  
9 local board of elections members.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
11 Article – Election Law  
12 Section 2–204  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Election Law**

18 2–204.

19 (a) **(1)** [Each] **SUBJECT TO SUBSECTIONS (B) AND (C) OF THIS SECTION,**  
20 **EACH** regular member of a local board shall receive the salary and reimbursement of  
21 expenses provided in the county budget[, but in no event may the annual].

22 **(2) THE COUNTY BUDGET MAY PROVIDE FOR A GREATER AMOUNT OF**  
23 **COMPENSATION THAN THE MINIMUM AMOUNT REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           **(B) THE compensation PAID EACH YEAR TO A REGULAR MEMBER MAY NOT** be  
2 less than the following **MINIMUM** amounts:

3           (1) in Allegany County, the amount set by the County Commissioners  
4 under Title 28, Subtitle 1 of the Local Government Article;

5           (2) in Anne Arundel County, \$5,000 for the president and \$4,500 for other  
6 regular members;

7           (3) in Baltimore City, \$11,000 for the president and \$10,000 for other  
8 regular members;

9           (4) in Baltimore County, \$4,000 for the president and \$3,000 for other  
10 regular members;

11           (5) in Calvert County, \$3,000 and reimbursement for expenses in the  
12 performance of their duties;

13           (6) in Caroline County, \$3,250 for the president, \$3,000 for other regular  
14 members, and reimbursement for expenses incurred in the performance of election duties  
15 in accordance with the Standard State Travel Regulations;

16           (7) in Carroll County, \$3,000;

17           (8) in Cecil County, \$1,250 for the president, \$1,000 for other regular  
18 members, and reimbursement for actual expenses incurred in the performance of election  
19 activities which occur outside the county;

20           (9) in Charles County, \$800;

21           (10) in Dorchester County, \$3,000 and expenses as authorized by the County  
22 Commissioners;

23           (11) in Frederick County, \$5,500 for the president and \$5,000 for other  
24 regular members;

25           (12) in Garrett County, the amount set by the County Commissioners under  
26 Chapter 91 of the Public Local Laws of Garrett County;

27           (13) in Harford County, \$2,000 for the president and \$1,700 for other regular  
28 members;

29           (14) in Howard County, \$2,800 for the president and \$2,000 for other regular  
30 members;

31           (15) in Kent County, \$1,500 for the president and \$1,500 for other regular  
32 members;

1 (16) in Montgomery County, \$5,000 for the president and \$4,500 for other  
2 regular members;

3 (17) in Prince George's County, \$5,000 for the president and \$4,500 for other  
4 regular members;

5 (18) in Queen Anne's County, \$1,500 for the president and \$1,200 for other  
6 regular members;

7 (19) in St. Mary's County, \$3,000;

8 (20) in Somerset County, \$1,000;

9 (21) in Talbot County, \$600;

10 (22) in Washington County, the amount set by the County Commissioners;

11 (23) in Wicomico County, \$2,400 for the president and \$1,800 for other  
12 regular members; and

13 (24) in Worcester County, \$1,500 for the president and \$1,200 for other  
14 regular members.

15 **(C) (1) (I) FOR EACH DAY OF THE CANVASS, AS DEFINED IN § 11-101**  
16 **OF THIS ARTICLE, ON WHICH A REGULAR OR SUBSTITUTE MEMBER SERVES, THE**  
17 **REGULAR OR SUBSTITUTE MEMBER SHALL BE PAID \$100 PER DAY.**

18 **(II) FOR EACH ELECTION DAY ON WHICH A REGULAR OR**  
19 **SUBSTITUTE MEMBER SERVES, THE REGULAR OR SUBSTITUTE MEMBER SHALL BE**  
20 **PAID \$350 PER DAY.**

21 **(III) FOR EACH DAY ON WHICH A REGULAR OR SUBSTITUTE**  
22 **MEMBER SERVES IN CONNECTION WITH A CONTESTED ELECTION, AS DEFINED**  
23 **UNDER § 12-301 OF THIS ARTICLE, THE REGULAR SUBSTITUTE OR REGULAR**  
24 **MEMBER SHALL BE PAID \$100 PER DAY.**

25 **(2) IF, AT THE END OF A FISCAL YEAR, THE AMOUNT OF**  
26 **COMPENSATION PAID TO A REGULAR MEMBER UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS**  
27 **SUBSECTION DURING THE FISCAL YEAR IS LESS THAN THE MINIMUM ANNUAL**  
28 **AMOUNT REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE COUNTY SHALL**  
29 **PAY TO THE REGULAR MEMBER THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE AMOUNT PAID**  
30 **UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION AND THE MINIMUM ANNUAL AMOUNT**  
31 **REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.**

1           **[(b) (D)] (1)**    [Consistent with] **SUBJECT TO** paragraph (2) of this subsection  
2 **AND SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION**, each substitute member shall be compensated  
3 for each day of service as provided in the county budget.

4           (2)    A substitute member shall be compensated at a rate of at least \$25 for  
5 each meeting of the local board that the substitute member attends.

6           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, in accordance with Article  
7 III, § 35 of the Maryland Constitution, this Act may not be construed to extend or apply to  
8 the salary or compensation of a member of a local board of elections while serving in a term  
9 of office beginning before the effective date of this Act, but the provisions of this Act  
10 concerning the salary or compensation of a member of a local board of elections shall take  
11 effect at the beginning of the next following term of office. This limitation does not apply to  
12 an individual appointed or elected after the effective date of this Act to fill out an unexpired  
13 term.

14           SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
15 October 1, 2024.