

# HOUSE BILL 323

M3

4r1538  
CF SB 337

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By: **Delegate Guyton**

Introduced and read first time: January 15, 2024

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation and Economic Matters

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment – Commission on Climate Change Membership – Addition**

3 FOR the purpose of adding the Chair of the Public Service Commission, or the Chair's  
4 designee, as a member of the Commission on Climate Change; and generally relating  
5 to the membership of the Commission on Climate Change.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
7 Article – Environment  
8 Section 2–1301(a)  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article – Environment  
13 Section 2–1302(a)  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Environment**

19 2–1301.

20 (a) There is a Commission on Climate Change in the Department to advise the  
21 Governor and General Assembly on ways to mitigate the causes of, prepare for, and adapt  
22 to the consequences of climate change.

23 2–1302.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (a) The Commission's membership shall consist of the following members:

2 (1) One member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the  
3 House;

4 (2) One member of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate;

5 (3) The State Treasurer, or the State Treasurer's designee;

6 (4) The Secretary of the Environment, or the Secretary's designee;

7 (5) The Secretary of Agriculture, or the Secretary's designee;

8 (6) The Secretary of Natural Resources, or the Secretary's designee;

9 (7) The Secretary of Planning, or the Secretary's designee;

10 (8) The State Superintendent of Schools, or the State Superintendent's  
11 designee;

12 (9) The Secretary of Transportation, or the Secretary's designee;

13 (10) The Secretary of General Services, or the Secretary's designee;

14 (11) The Director of the Maryland Energy Administration, or the Director's  
15 designee;

16 (12) The People's Counsel, or the People's Counsel's designee;

17 (13) The President of the University of Maryland Center for Environmental  
18 Science, or the President's designee;

19 (14) The Chair of the Critical Area Commission for the Chesapeake and  
20 Atlantic Coastal Bays, or the Chair's designee;

21 **(15) THE CHAIR OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, OR THE**  
22 **CHAIR'S DESIGNEE;**

23 **[(15)] (16)** One member appointed by the Farm Bureau representing the  
24 agriculture community;

25 **[(16)] (17)** One member appointed by the Maryland Association of Counties  
26 and one member appointed by the Maryland Municipal League to represent local  
27 governments;

1            ~~[(17)]~~ **(18)** One member appointed by the President of the Senate and one  
2 member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates to represent the business  
3 community;

4            ~~[(18)]~~ **(19)** One member appointed by the President of the Senate and one  
5 member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates to represent environmental  
6 nonprofit organizations;

7            ~~[(19)]~~ **(20)** One member appointed by the President of the Senate and one  
8 member appointed by the Speaker of the House to represent organized labor, one of whom  
9 shall represent the building or construction trades and one of whom shall represent the  
10 manufacturing industry;

11            ~~[(20)]~~ **(21)** One member appointed by the President of the Senate and one  
12 member appointed by the Speaker of the House to represent philanthropic organizations;

13            ~~[(21)]~~ **(22)** One climate change expert appointed by the Governor  
14 representing a university located in Maryland; and

15            ~~[(22)]~~ **(23)** One public health expert appointed by the Governor representing  
16 a university located in Maryland.

17            SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
18 October 1, 2024.