

# SENATE BILL 812

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4r3042  
CF HB 80

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By: **Senator Ellis**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2024

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Party and Elected Public Offices – Prohibition**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the application of provisions of law that prohibit an individual  
4 from simultaneously being a candidate for more than one public office or office of a  
5 political party; prohibiting individuals from simultaneously being a candidate for, or  
6 holding, a party office and an elected public office; and generally relating to  
7 simultaneous candidacy for and incumbency in more than one office.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
9 Article – Election Law  
10 Section 1–101(a), (l–1), and (hh) and 8–501(a)  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
14 Article – Election Law  
15 Section 5–204  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Election Law**

21 1–101.

22 (a) In this article the following words have the meanings indicated unless a  
23 different meaning is clearly intended from the context.

24 (l–1) (1) “Central committee” means a political committee for a political party

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 established under Title 4 of this article.

2 (2) "Central committee" includes a political committee for a political party  
3 that engages in campaign finance activity that is subject to Title 13 of this article.

4 (hh) "Political party" means an organized group that is qualified as a political party  
5 in accordance with Title 4 of this article.

6 5–204.

7 **(A) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO**  
8 **SIMULTANEOUSLY HOLDS AN ELECTED PUBLIC OFFICE AND:**

9 **(1) IS ON THE BALLOT FOR THE NATIONAL PRESIDENTIAL**  
10 **NOMINATING CONVENTION; OR**

11 **(2) HOLDS THE OFFICE OF DELEGATE TO THE NATIONAL**  
12 **PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATING CONVENTION.**

13 **[(a)] (B)** An individual simultaneously may not be a candidate for more than one  
14 **ELECTED** public office.

15 **[(b)] (C)** An individual simultaneously may not be a candidate for more than one  
16 office of a political party.

17 **[(c)] (D)** [Unless otherwise prohibited by rule of the applicable political party,  
18 an] **AN** individual simultaneously may **NOT** be a candidate for a party office and **[a] AN**  
19 **ELECTED** public office.

20 **(E) AN INDIVIDUAL SIMULTANEOUSLY MAY NOT HOLD A PARTY OFFICE AND**  
21 **AN ELECTED PUBLIC OFFICE.**

22 8–501.

23 (a) Delegates and alternate delegates to the national presidential nominating  
24 convention of a political party shall be selected as provided in the national party rules of  
25 the party.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
27 January 1, 2025.