

House Bill No. 943

AN ACT concerning

Municipal Corporations – Proposed Annexation Resolutions – Notice and Hearing Requirements

FOR the purpose of altering the number of times that notice of the submission to the voters of a municipal corporation of a proposed annexation resolution must be published in a newspaper under certain circumstances; altering the time frame within which a public hearing shall be set on a proposed annexation resolution under certain circumstances; and generally relating to notice of and hearing requirements for proposed annexation resolutions in municipal corporations.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 23A – Corporations – Municipal

Section 19(d)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2001 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

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

Article 23A – Corporations – Municipal

19.

(d) After the introduction of the resolution into the legislative body of the municipal corporation, the chief executive and administrative officer of the municipal corporation shall cause a public notice thereof to be published not fewer than four times OR, IF THE TOTAL AREA OF THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION IS FOR ~~50~~ 25 ACRES OF LAND OR LESS, NOT FEWER THAN TWO TIMES, at not less than weekly intervals in a newspaper or newspapers of general circulation in the municipal corporation and the area to be annexed, briefly and accurately describing the proposed change and the conditions and circumstances applicable. The public notices shall specify a time and place at which a public hearing will be held by the legislative body on the resolution; the hearing shall be set for not less than 15 days after the fourth publication of the notices OR, IF THE TOTAL AREA OF THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION IS FOR ~~50~~ 25 ACRES OF LAND OR LESS, NOT LESS THAN 15 DAYS AFTER THE SECOND PUBLICATION OF THE NOTICES, and shall be held either within the boundaries of the municipal corporation or within the area to be annexed. The public hearing may be continued or rescheduled for a subsequent time not to exceed 30 days from the day for which the meeting was originally scheduled, or the day on which the hearing commenced but was not completed. In the event of a continuation or rescheduling, a single public notice shall be given at least seven days prior to the continued or rescheduled date in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipal corporation and in the area whose annexation is to be discussed, briefly and accurately describing the property whose annexation is to be discussed, and specifying the day, time, and place of the public hearing. Immediately upon the first publication of the public notice, a copy of the