

Sincerely,  
Parris N. Glendening  
Governor

**House Bill No. 538**

AN ACT concerning

**Election Laws - Study Commission on Public Funding of Campaigns in Maryland**

FOR the purpose of establishing a Study Commission on Public Funding of Campaigns in Maryland; specifying the composition, powers, and duties of the Commission; providing for the staffing of the Commission; requiring the Commission to report its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislative changes, to the Governor and the General Assembly by a certain date; providing for the termination of ~~the Commission this Act~~; and generally relating to the Study Commission on Public Funding of Campaigns in Maryland.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That:

(a) There is a Study Commission on Public Funding of Campaigns in Maryland.

(b) The Commission shall consist of the following 15 members:

(1) Three members of the Senate of Maryland, one of whom shall be a member of the minority party, appointed by the President of the Senate;

(2) Three members of the House of Delegates, one of whom shall be a member of the minority party, appointed by the Speaker of the House; ~~and~~

(3) ~~Nine~~ Seven individuals appointed by the Governor, including:

(i) A member of the State Board of Elections;

(ii) A member of the State Ethics Commission;

(iii) A member of a statewide organization concerned with campaign finance practices, fair elections, and ethics in government; and

(iv) ~~Six~~ Four additional individuals;

(4) One member of the general public appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate; and

(5) One member of the general public appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Delegates.

(c) The Governor shall designate the chairman of the Commission.