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 Arthur Dorman, *Vice-Chairperson*

*Appointed by Senate President:* Michael J. Collins; C. Bernard Fowler; Idamae Garrott; Paula C. Hollinger; Gloria G. Lawlah; Christopher J. McCabe; American Joe Miedusiewski; J. Lowell Stoltzfus; Gerald W. Winegrad.

**EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE**

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*Appointed by Committee Chair:* Clarence W. Blount; Michael J. Collins; Gloria G. Lawlah; Christopher J. McCabe.

**ENVIRONMENTAL SUBCOMMITTEE**

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*Appointed by Committee Chair:* Michael J. Collins; C. Bernard Fowler; Idamae Garrott; J. Lowell Stoltzfus.

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*Appointed by Senate President:* Thomas L. Bromwell; George W. Della, Jr.; Howard A. Denis; John W. Derr; John J. Hafer; Patricia R. Sher; Decatur W. Trotter; Michael J. Wagner; Larry Young.

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**ORIGIN & FUNCTIONS**

The Senate of Maryland originated as the Upper House of the General Assembly, formally distinguished from the Lower House in 1650 (Chapter 1, Acts of 1650). The Governor and the Governor's Council constituted the Upper House until 1675. Thereafter, the Upper House consisted of the Governor's Council. To this day, the Senate still functions as the Governor's Council when it confirms or rejects appointments made by the Governor.

The Constitution of 1776 established the Senate. Members were chosen by electors to represent regions. In the period 1776 to 1837, from the Western Shore nine senators were selected and from the Eastern Shore, six (Const. 1776, secs. 14-18). In 1838, senators first were elected by the voters, rather than by an electoral college, and first were chosen to represent either an individual county or a legislative election district of Baltimore City, rather than a broad area.

For most of its history, the Senate represented geographic regions of the State. Regardless of population, each county elected a single senator. With the exception of Baltimore City, representation in the Senate was based on geography, not population, until 1966. Since the legislative apportionment plan of 1972 took effect in the 1974 elections, each of the General Assembly's 47 senators has been elected from one of 47 legislative election districts. These districts provide for equal representation based on population.