

JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

Joseph F. Vallario, Jr., *Chairperson*
 Joel Chasnoff, *Vice-Chairperson*

Lowe House Office Building, Room 121
 6 Governor Bladen Blvd.
 Annapolis, MD 21401 (410) 841-3488

Origins of the Judiciary Committee trace first to the Committee on Aggrievances, which began in 1692, and then to the Committee on Aggrievances and Courts of Justice which was functioning by 1722 in the Lower House of the General Assembly. By 1751, the Committee was styled the Committee on Grievances and Courts of Justice. Under that name, the Committee continued until 1852. Some of the Committee's legislative concerns had been assumed in 1828 by the Crimes and Punishments Committee, a standing committee established that year. Responsibilities of both these committees were assigned to the new Judiciary Committee in 1852, when the House of Delegates established the Standing Committee on Judiciary. At its first legislative session following ratification of the Constitution of 1851, the House formed the Committee to consider laws relating to a court system, newly altered by Maryland's second constitution.

Today, the Committee still considers legislation relating to judicial administration and court structure. It also is concerned with administrative law; alcoholic beverages; civil rights; commercial law; constitutional amendments; corporations and associations; crimes and punishments; election laws; estates and trusts; ethics; family law; juvenile causes; the legal profession; legal rights and immunities; and vehicle laws. Twenty-two delegates serve on this committee.

WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

Sheila E. Hixson, *Chairperson*
 Richard Rynd, *Vice-Chairperson*

Lowe House Office Building, Room 111
 6 Governor Bladen Blvd.
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A predecessor of the Ways and Means Committee first appeared in the House of Delegates in 1791. During that legislative session, the Committee on Public Revenues, Debts and Expenditures, and Ways and Means was formed as a special committee apparently for that session only. As a stand-

ing committee, the Ways and Means Committee began in 1818.

The Ways and Means Committee considers legislation relating to education; gambling; health (minors' access to cigarettes; compulsive gambling; treatment); local government; social services (adult public guardianship); State government (special commissions; State Archives; Secretary of State); taxes; and transportation. The Committee consists of twenty-two delegates.

Under the Committee, five subcommittees were formed in 1994: Education; Financing Resources; Housing and Social Issues; Taxes and Revenues; and Transportation.

RULES & EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Hattie N. Harrison, *Chairperson*
 Rose Mary Hatem Bonsack, *Vice-Chairperson*

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 6 Governor Bladen Blvd.
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In November 1795, the House of Delegates established a committee "to report such rules as are proper to be observed during this session." The Committee came to be known as the Rules Committee. In 1966, it was renamed the Rules and Organization Committee and, in 1968, reorganized as the Rules, Organization, and Executive Nominations Committee. The Committee received its present name in 1969.

The Rules and Executive Nominations Committee considers proposals concerning the rules, organization, and procedures of the House; and considers proposals affecting the legislature as an institution and its agencies. The Committee reviews legislation introduced after the bill deadline, and decides on re-referral of those bills to other committees for consideration. In addition, the Committee examines nominations requiring House confirmation and reports its recommendations.

CONSENT CALENDARS COMMITTEE

Casper R. Taylor, Jr., *House Speaker*
 Kenneth H. Masters, *Majority Leader*
 Ellen R. Sauerbrey, *Minority Leader*

The Consent Calendars Committee determines the bills and joint resolutions proposed for inclusion on the consent calendar (House Rule 18).