

COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 01-08

**A BILL ENTITLED**

AN ACT CONCERNING the Repeal and Readoption with Amendments of Sections 4-101, 4-102 and 4-103 of Title 4 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Queen Anne's County (1996 Ed.) entitled "Board of County Commissioners."

FOR THE PURPOSE of increasing the number of County Commissioners in Queen Anne's County to five, providing for the election of four County Commissioners from residency districts established herein, providing for the election of the President of the Board of County Commissioners from any area of the County, providing for the establishment of a Redistricting Board and generally providing for the election, establishment and conduct of a five member Board of County Commissioners for Queen Anne's County.

SECTION I

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND that Sections 4-101, 4-102 and 4-103 of Title 4 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Queen Anne's County, Maryland (1996 Ed.) be and are hereby repealed and readopted to read as follows:

Subtitle 1. County Commissioners

4-101. County Commissioners; number; election; tenure.

(a) Number.

There shall be 5 County Commissioners for Queen Anne's County, 4 of whom shall be elected at large, with 1 residing in each of the 4 County Commissioner Districts of the County. The fifth shall hold the position of President of the County Commissioners, may reside in any area of the County and shall be elected at large.

(b) Election.

At the general election held in 2002, and at the general election held every fourth year thereafter, the County Commissioners shall be elected.

(c) Term.

(1) The term of a County Commissioner is four years and begins on the date of their election effective once the

County Commissioner qualifies.

(2) At the end of a term, a County Commissioner continues to serve until a successor is elected and qualifies.

(d) Eligibility for re-election.

A County Commissioner may be re-elected.

4-102. Districts; redistricting board.

(a) Districts.

The County shall be divided into four County Commissioners election districts in accordance with this Section until modified by the Redistricting Board as hereinafter provided.

(1) District 1 is comprised of the northern area of the County including the Church Hill, Sudlersville, Kingstown, Barclay and Crumpton areas and the eastern part of the County including the Ruthsburg area and is specifically described by reference to the 2000 U.S. Census Bureau data as the following Census Block Groups:

810100 All Groups  
810200 All Groups  
810300 All Groups  
810500 Group 1

(2) District 2 is comprised of the Centreville and Queenstown areas including the Bennett Point Road and Prospect Bay communities and is specifically described by reference to the 2000 U.S. Census Bureau data as the following Census Block Groups:

810400 All Groups  
810500 Group 2  
810600 All Groups

(3) District 3 is comprised of the Grasonville area of the County as well as Kent Island north of U.S. Route 50 and south of U.S. Route 50 east of Thompson Creek and is specifically described by reference to the 2000 U.S. Census Bureau data as the following Census Block Groups:

810700 All Groups  
810800 All Groups  
811000 Group 2

(4) District 4 is comprised of Kent Island south of

U.S. Route 50 and west of Thompson's Creek, includes all of the Route 8 area south of U.S. Route 50 and is specifically described by reference to the 2000 U.S. Census Bureau data as the following Census Block Groups:

810900 All Groups  
811000 Group 1

(b) Redistricting Board.

(1) Not later than July 1, 2011 a seven member Redistricting Board shall be appointed composed of three appointees of the County Commissioners, 2 appointees of the Democratic Central Committee and 2 appointees of the Republican Central Committee. The Redistricting Board shall convene not later than 30 days after appointment to organize and shall elect a Chairman from among its members.

(2) By April 1, 2012 the Redistricting Board shall establish tentative Boundaries of the 4 County Commissioner Districts after due consideration and investigation within reasonable and lawful guidelines. The Redistricting Board shall set and conduct at least three public hearings in different geographical areas of the County and shall give notice of the time, date and place of such hearings at least twice in a newspaper of general circulation in Queen Anne's County.

(3) After all public hearings have been held, a final draft of the districting plan shall be completed and submitted to the County Commissioners and shall thereupon become law. After the plan becomes law, the Redistricting Board shall terminate its existence.

(4) Subsequent Redistricting Boards shall be appointed within 1 year after the publication of the national decennial census and the same appointing procedure outlined above shall be followed, including the timetable established herein.

4-103. President; Vice-President.

(a) In general.

At the first regular meeting after the qualification of each Commissioner, the County Commissioners shall select from among themselves a Vice-President who shall, during the Presidents absence or inability to act, or at the President's request have the powers and perform the duties of the President.

(b) President.

(1) The President shall preside over meetings of the County Commissioners.

(2) Except as otherwise provided by law, the President may execute authorized bonds, contracts, deeds, notes and other instruments in the name of the County Commissioners.

SECTION II

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect on the forty-sixth day following its passage.

Introduced By: Marlene Davis

Date: 12-18-01

Public Hearing Held: 1-15-02 7:00pm

Vote:      Yea     1     Nay     

Date: 2-19-02