

SENATE BILL 629

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5lr2453
CF HB 786

By: **Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee (By Request – Maryland Judicial Conference)**

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2025

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Appellate Court of Maryland – Sessions at Educational Institutions**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Appellate Court of Maryland to hold sessions at certain
4 secondary and postsecondary educational institutions in the State under certain
5 circumstances; and generally relating to the Appellate Court of Maryland sessions.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings
8 Section 1–403
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

14 1–403.

15 (a) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the Appellate
16 Court of Maryland shall hold its sessions in the City of Annapolis at the time or times it
17 prescribes by rule.

18 (2) As designated by the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court of Maryland,
19 in conjunction with the deans of the University of Maryland School of Law and the
20 University of Baltimore School of Law, the Appellate Court of Maryland may hold sessions
21 at the University of Maryland, Baltimore Campus and the University of Baltimore.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(3) AS DESIGNATED BY THE CHIEF JUDGE OF THE APPELLATE**
2 **COURT OF MARYLAND, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ADMINISTRATIONS OF**
3 **SECONDARY AND POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE STATE,**
4 **THE APPELLATE COURT OF MARYLAND MAY HOLD SESSIONS AT SECONDARY AND**
5 **POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE STATE.**

6 **[(3)] (4)** Its sessions shall continue not less than ten months in each year,
7 if the business before it so requires.

8 (b) A case before the Appellate Court of Maryland shall be heard by a panel of not
9 less than three judges. The panels shall be constituted, sit at the times, and hear the cases
10 as directed by the Chief Judge from time to time. A quorum of a panel consists of one less
11 than the number of judges designated to sit on the panel. The concurrence of a majority of
12 a panel is necessary for the decision of a case.

13 (c) A hearing or rehearing before the court in banc may be ordered in any case by
14 a majority of the incumbent judges of the court. Six judges of the court constitute a quorum
15 of the court in banc. The concurrence of a majority of the incumbent judges of the entire
16 court is necessary for decision of a case heard or reheard by the court in banc.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2025.