

HOUSE BILL 880

P3

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CF SB 450

By: **Delegates Morales, Carr, Angel, Cullison, Hill, Kelly, Lewis, Morgan, Mosby, Pena-Melnyk, Platt, Tarlau, and K. Young**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2017

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Open Meetings Act – Required Training for Members of Public Bodies**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing the requirement that a public body designate a certain
4 individual to receive training on the Open Meetings Act and forward a certain list to
5 the Open Meetings Compliance Board; requiring that certain individuals complete
6 certain classes or submit a letter stating certain information to the Board within a
7 certain period of time after becoming a member of a public body; requiring an
8 individual who is a member of a public body on the effective date of this Act to comply
9 with certain provisions of this Act on or before a certain date except under certain
10 circumstances; and generally relating to required training for members of public
11 bodies regarding the Open Meetings Act.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – General Provisions
14 Section 3–213
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2014 Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – General Provisions**

20 3–213.

21 [(a) Each public body shall:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(1) designate at least one individual who is an employee, an officer, or a member of the public body to receive training on the requirements of the open meetings law; and

(2) forward a list of the individuals designated under item (1) of this subsection to the Board.

(b)] Within 90 days after [being designated under subsection (a)(1) of this section] **BECOMING A MEMBER OF A PUBLIC BODY**, an individual shall:

(1) complete:

[(1)] (I) an online class on the requirements of the open meetings law offered by the Office of the Attorney General and the University of Maryland's Institute for Governmental Service and Research; or

[(2)] (II) a class on the requirements of the open meetings law offered by the Maryland Association of Counties or the Maryland Municipal League through the Academy for Excellence in Local Governance; **OR**

(2) SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE BOARD STATING THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS UNABLE OR UNWILLING TO COMPLETE A CLASS AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That an individual who is a member of a public body on the effective date of this Act shall comply with § 3–213 of the General Provisions Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, on or before January 1, 2018, unless the individual completed a class as described in § 3–213 of the General Provisions Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, on or before September 30, 2017.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2017.