

Advocacy

Maryland Jewish DAY RECEPTION 2024



Providing the Needed Legislative Support for Removal of an Individual from a Statutorily Created Entity

It's important for there to be a mechanism for suspending or removing a member of a statutorily created board, committee, commission, task force, or workgroup if they no longer represent the best interest of the group. For example, if someone who is appointed to the Maryland Sexual Assault Evidence Kit Policy and Funding Commission is accused of committing sexual assault, they need to be able to be removed, or at least suspended until the accusation is resolved. Another example could be the need to suspend a physician from the State Board of Physicians due to pending litigation and until the case is resolved.

HB809: Members of Boards, Committees, Commissions, Task Forces, or Workgroups – Removal or Suspension (Del. Joe Vogel)

In partnership with the Attorney General's Office, this legislation would give authority to the individual or entity that has appointed someone to serve on a statutorily created board, committee, commission, task force, or workgroup to suspend or remove the member for misconduct, incompetence, neglect of duties, or any other cause deemed reasonable.

Why is this bill good for Maryland and the Jewish Community?

By allowing an appointing authority to hold a member of a commission, committee, task force, or workgroup accountable for their actions, we are embodying the Jewish value of actively pursuing justice, "tzedek, tzedek tirdof."