



**Office of the County Executive
STEUART PITTMAN**

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY GOVERNMENT RELATIONS OFFICE

Legislative and Fiscal Summary of Administration Legislation

To: Members, Anne Arundel County Council

From: Ethan Hunt, Director of Government Affairs /s/

Date: April 20, 2026

Subject: Bill No. 30-26 – Boards, Commissions, and Similar Bodies – Resilience Authority of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County – Membership – Director

This summary was prepared by the Anne Arundel County Government Relations Office for use by members of the Anne Arundel County Council during consideration of Bill No. 30-26.

Summary

This legislation, introduced at the request of the Administration, clarifies that the Executive Director of the Resilience Authority of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County (“Resilience Authority”) is appointed by the Board of Directors of the Resilience Authority, and that board members appointed by the County Executive and Mayor do not have to be residents of the County or City of Annapolis respectively.

During its 2020 session, the General Assembly passed Senate Bill 457, which added Title 22, “Resilience Infrastructure” to the Local Government Article of the State Code. This Title enables local government entities to create resilience financing authorities. In enacting this legislation, the General Assembly recognized that climate change is impacting the State of Maryland, including rising temperatures, major storm events, sea level rise, and changes in precipitation patterns. As a result, Maryland communities are experiencing the effects of these climate changes. Coastal states are and will be especially hard hit, and local governments will bear much of the costs to mitigate these impacts through infrastructure investment. Thus, the General Assembly determined that local resilience financing authorities could work with local governments to accelerate infrastructure financing, reduce cost of implementation, and mitigate and manage the risks of climate change. (See Preamble to Senate Bill 457, 2020 Legislative Session, Maryland General Assembly).

The County Council passed Bill 31-21 establishing the Resilience Authority, the first multi-jurisdictional resilience authority in the nation, on June 7, 2021. Bill 31-21 made provisions for the creation of the Resilience Authority, filing of Articles of Incorporation,

Note: This Legislative and Fiscal Summary provides a synopsis of the legislation as introduced. It does not address subsequent amendments to the legislation.

membership of the Board, appointment and qualifications of the Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer, bonding authority, and annual reporting requirements. Bill 47-25, the annual personnel bill, was passed by the County Council on June 7, 2025. That bill in relevant part made the Executive Director of the Resilience Authority an employee of the Resilience Authority instead of Anne Arundel County, and removed the position from the exempt service. However it did not address the authority of the Resilience Authority to appoint the Executive Director. This legislation addresses that gap by clarifying that the Executive Director, who is already an employee of the Resilience Authority, is appointed by the Board of Directors, after the advice and recommendation of the County Executive and the Mayor of Annapolis, and serves at the pleasure of the Board.

Bill 31-21 also set requirements for the Board of Directors, specifically that three members be residents of the City of Annapolis and appointed by the Mayor, and that nine residents be residents of Anne Arundel County and appointed by the County Executive. After nearly five years of operation, with 32 projects completed or underway and over \$50 million obtained from various private and public grant programs and philanthropic sources, both the Board of Directors and external stakeholders and donors believe that the Resilience Authority would benefit from a wider breadth of experience and knowledge than the Board currently possesses. Removing the residency requirements will enable the board membership to be chosen from a broader pool of potential members and is consistent with both the practices and recommendations of other similar entities across the Country.

Legislation is necessary to realize both of these changes, as the appointment authority for the Executive Director and residency requirements for board members was established via legislation.

Purpose

The purpose of this legislation is to clarify that the Executive Director of the Resilience Authority, who is an employee of the Resilience Authority, is appointed by the Board of Directors and serves at the Board's pleasure. The bill also removes the residency requirement for board members.

Fiscal Impact

Please see the Fiscal Note prepared by the Budget Office for an explanation of the Fiscal Impact of this legislation.

Additional Information

The Government Relations Office is available to answer any additional questions regarding this Bill. Specific questions should be directed to Matt Flemming, Resilience Authority of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County, or Lori Blair Klasmeier, Office of Law. Thank you.

cc: Honorable Stuart Pittman, County Executive
Christine Anderson, Chief Administrative Officer
Jenny Proebstle, Chief of Staff
Gregory Swain, County Attorney
Chris Trumbauer, Budget Officer
Matt Flemming, Executive Director, Resilience Authority