

Charter Amendment – System of Public Campaign Financing

Proposing an amendment to the Charter of Anne Arundel County to require the establishment of a system of public campaign financing for candidates for County Executive and County Council.

The following amendment to the Anne Arundel County Charter is proposed for submission to the qualified voters of the County at the General Election in November 2022:

Article X. MISCELLANEOUS Sec. 1018.

Public campaign financing.

(A) Public campaign financing system.

(1) BY JULY 1, 2024, THE COUNTY SHALL ESTABLISH BY LAW A PUBLIC CAMPAIGN FINANCING SYSTEM FOR CANDIDATES FOR COUNTY EXECUTIVE, COUNTY COUNCIL, OR BOTH, IN A GENERAL ELECTION IN 2026 OR AFTER.

(2) THE PUBLIC CAMPAIGN FINANCING SYSTEM LAW SHALL INCLUDE PROVISIONS THAT:

(I) ALLOW CANDIDATES TO CHOOSE WHETHER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PUBLIC CAMPAIGN FINANCING SYSTEM;

(II) ESTABLISH A PUBLIC CAMPAIGN FINANCING SYSTEM COMMISSION CONSISTING OF SEVEN COUNTY RESIDENTS APPOINTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL AND TWO COUNTY RESIDENTS APPOINTED BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE;

(III) PROVIDE FOR THE QUALIFICATIONS, TERMS, AND OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC CAMPAIGN FINANCING SYSTEM COMMISSION;

(IV) REQUIRE THE COMMISSION TO CALCULATE, NOT LATER THAN 180 DAYS PRIOR TO THE END OF A FISCAL YEAR, THE TOTAL AMOUNT ESTIMATED FOR THE FULL ELECTION CYCLE AND THE AMOUNT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE CURRENT EXPENSE BUDGET FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR TO FULLY FUND THE PUBLIC CAMPAIGN FINANCING SYSTEM; AND

(V) ESTABLISH A PUBLIC ELECTION FUND FOR COUNTY ELECTIVE OFFICES THAT IS ADMINISTERED BY THE CONTROLLER.

(B) Funds included in annual budget and appropriation ordinance. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (C), IN EACH FISCAL YEAR, THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE REQUIRED BY ARTICLE VII OF THIS CHARTER THE AMOUNT CALCULATED BY THE PUBLIC CAMPAIGN FINANCING SYSTEM COMMISSION AS NECESSARY TO FULLY FUND THE PUBLIC CAMPAIGN FINANCING SYSTEM FOR THE FISCAL YEAR.

(C) When funds not required in annual budget and appropriation ordinance. THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE IS NOT REQUIRED TO INCLUDE THE AMOUNT CALCULATED BY THE PUBLIC CAMPAIGN FINANCING SYSTEM COMMISSION AS NECESSARY TO FULLY FUND THE PUBLIC CAMPAIGN FINANCING SYSTEM FOR THE FISCAL YEAR IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE IF:

(1) IN THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR, FUNDS HAVE BEEN OR ARE BEING TRANSFERRED FROM THE REVENUE RESERVE FUND TO THE GENERAL FUND PURSUANT TO § 4-11-106 OF THE COUNTY CODE; OR

(2) NOT LATER THAN 120 DAYS PRIOR TO THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR, THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE CERTIFIES TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL THAT THE COUNTY'S FISCAL CONDITION MAKES IT IMPRUDENT TO INCLUDE THE FUNDS, AND THE COUNTY COUNCIL APPROVES THE CERTIFICATION BY A VOTE OF NOT LESS THAN FIVE MEMBERS.

(D) Public Election Fund. FUNDS TO FINANCE THE PUBLIC CAMPAIGN FINANCING SYSTEM INCLUDED IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE SHALL BE INCLUDED IN AND DISBURSED FROM THE PUBLIC ELECTION FUND REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(2)(V).

State of Maryland - Charter Amendment Petition

We, the undersigned voters of _____ County or (check for Baltimore City), hereby petition to have this amendment of the County or City Charter submitted to a vote of the registered voters of the County or Baltimore City, for approval or rejection at the next general election. ****THE FULL TEXT OF THE PROPOSAL THAT IS SUBJECT TO THIS PETITION APPEARS ON THE REVERSE OF THIS PAGE****

If the full text of the proposal does not appear on the back of this signature page or as an attachment, a fair and accurate summary of the substantive provisions of the proposal must appear on the back or be attached, and the full text of the proposal must be immediately available from the petition circulator.

NOTICE TO SIGNERS: Sign and print your name (1) as it appears on the voter registration list, OR (2) your surname of registration AND at least one full given name AND the initial of any other names. Please print or type all information other than your signature. Post Office Box addresses are not generally accepted as valid. By signing this petition, you agree that the aforementioned charter amendment proposal should be placed on the ballot as a question at the next general election and that, to the best of your knowledge, you are registered to vote in Maryland and are eligible to have your signature counted for this petition.

(Rev 12-2011)

Please Note: The information you provide on this petition is public information and may be used to change your voter registration address.

1	Print Name:	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Birth Date:	Month	Date	Year
	Signature:				Date of Signature:	Month	Date	Year
	Maryland Residence Address:	Street Number	Street Name	Apt. No.	City or Town	Zip	Election District:	Precinct:
2	Print Name:	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Birth Date:	Month	Date	Year
	Signature:				Date of Signature:	Month	Date	Year
	Maryland Residence Address:	Street Number	Street Name	Apt. No.	City or Town	Zip	Election District:	Precinct:
3	Print Name:	First Name	Middle Name		Birth Date:	Month	Date	Year
	Signature:				Date of Signature:	Month	Date	Year
	Maryland Residence Address:	Street Number	Street Name	Apt. No.	City or Town	Zip	Election District:	Precinct:
4	Print Name:	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Birth Date:	Month	Date	Year
	Signature:				Date of Signature:	Month	Date	Year
	Maryland Residence Address:	Street Number	Street Name	Apt. No.	City or Town	Zip	Election District:	Precinct:
5	Print Name:	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Birth Date:	Month	Date	Year
	Signature:				Date of Signature:	Month	Date	Year
	Maryland Residence Address:	Street Number	Street Name	Apt. No.	City or Town	Zip	Election District:	Precinct:

Individual Circulator's printed or typed name _____

Residence Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (including area code) _____

Circulator's Affidavit Under penalties of perjury, I swear (or affirm) that: (a) I was at least 18 years old when each signature was obtained; (b) the information given to the left identifying me is true and correct; (c) I personally observed each signer as he or she signed this page; and (d) to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief: (i) all signatures on this page are genuine and bona fide; and (ii) all signers are registered voters of Maryland and Anne Arundel County. *(Sign and Date when signature collection is completed)*

Circulator's Signature _____ Date (mm/dd/yy) _____