



A Comparison of State Legislative Processes

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Who is Chesapeake Legal Alliance?

CLA's goal is to effect systematic and permanent improvement in Chesapeake Bay Watershed health through improved compliance and enforcement of existing laws, and development of more effective laws, regulations, and guidelines.

We advocate for and we empower communities with innovative legal tools and resources to ultimately protect water quality and ensure a healthy future.



Pro Bono Services

We provide access to free legal services through our team of passionate volunteer attorneys.

Legal Innovation

We work with communities to generate creative and cutting-edge legal and policy solutions.

Community Legal Education

We arm communities with the tools needed to effect positive change.

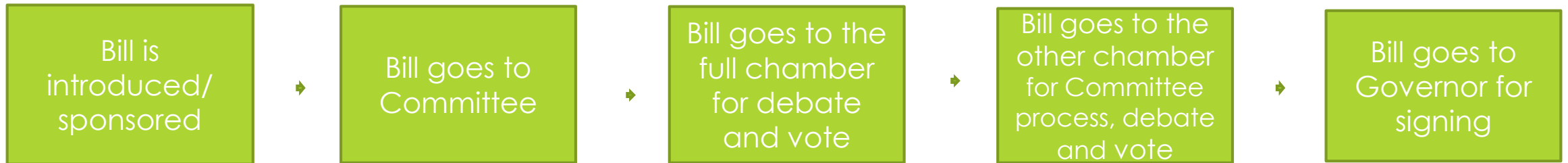


Why are we here?

“By laws enacted in the three member states more than three decades ago, **the CBC is charged with addressing the broad range of issues and policies that reflect the pollution sources, land uses and human impacts in the Bay region**, an area spanning six states, a 64,000 square mile watershed and 180,000 miles of tributaries and coastline. **Commission members craft and secure passage of laws and policies that must balance many ecological, societal and economic concerns.**

The restoration's primary focus is on clean water, believing that restored water quality will lead to improved conditions for the resources that depend upon it. “

Legislative Process: How a Bill Becomes a Law



State Overview Size

Maryland – **12,407** sq miles

Virginia – **42,775** sq miles

Pennsylvania – **46,054** sq miles



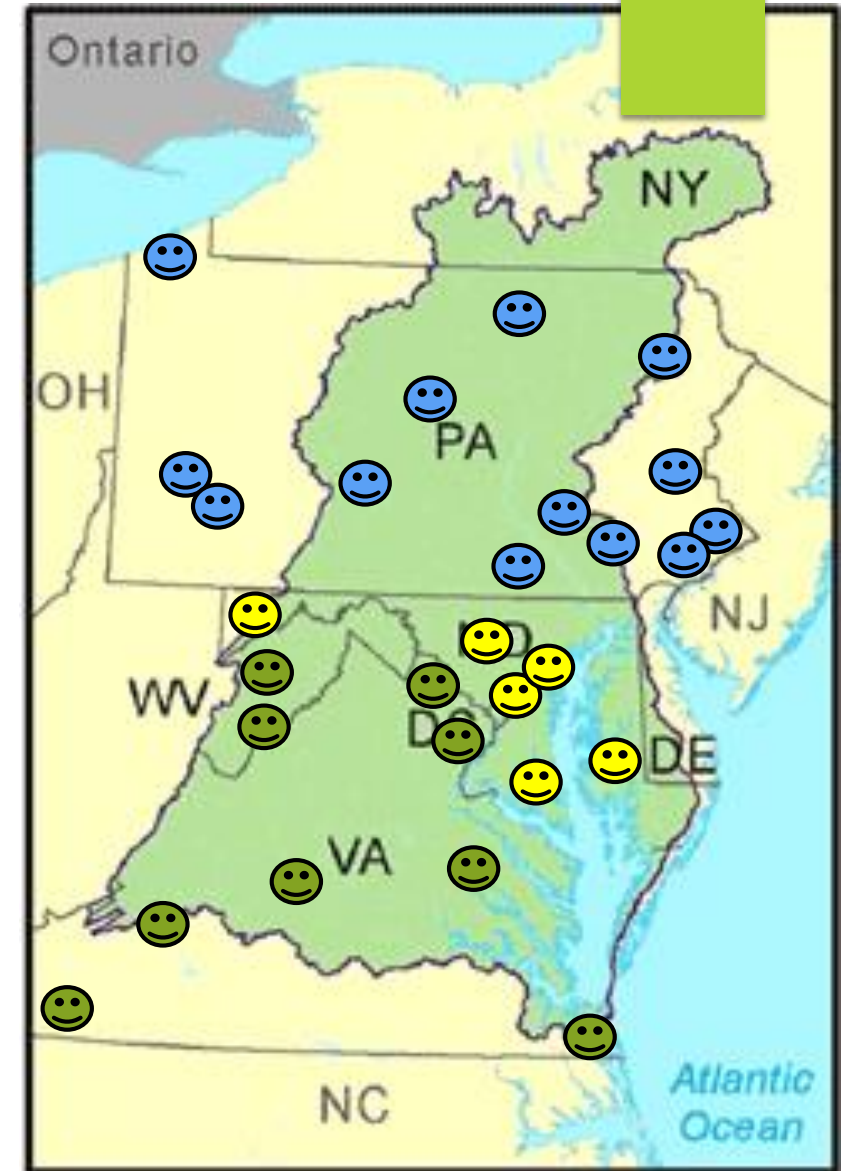
http://md.water.usgs.gov/publications/fs-150-99/html/figure1_big.gif

State Overview Population

Maryland – 6.043 mil people

Virginia – 8.518 mil people

Pennsylvania – 12.81 mil people

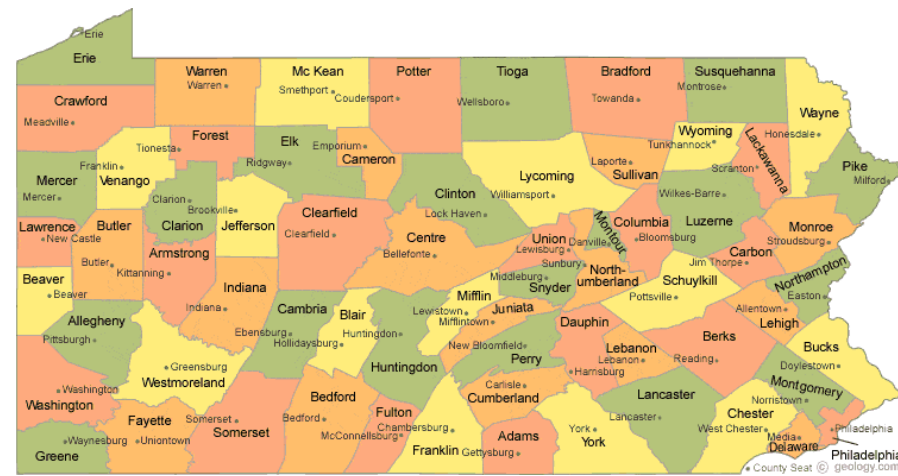


State Overview Counties

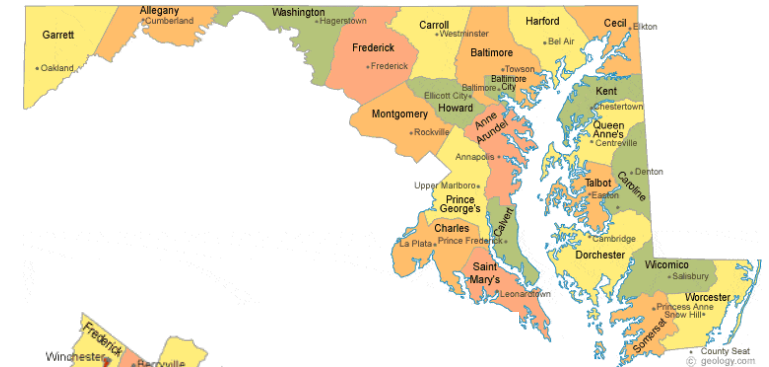
Maryland – **24** (including
Baltimore City)

Pennsylvania – **67**

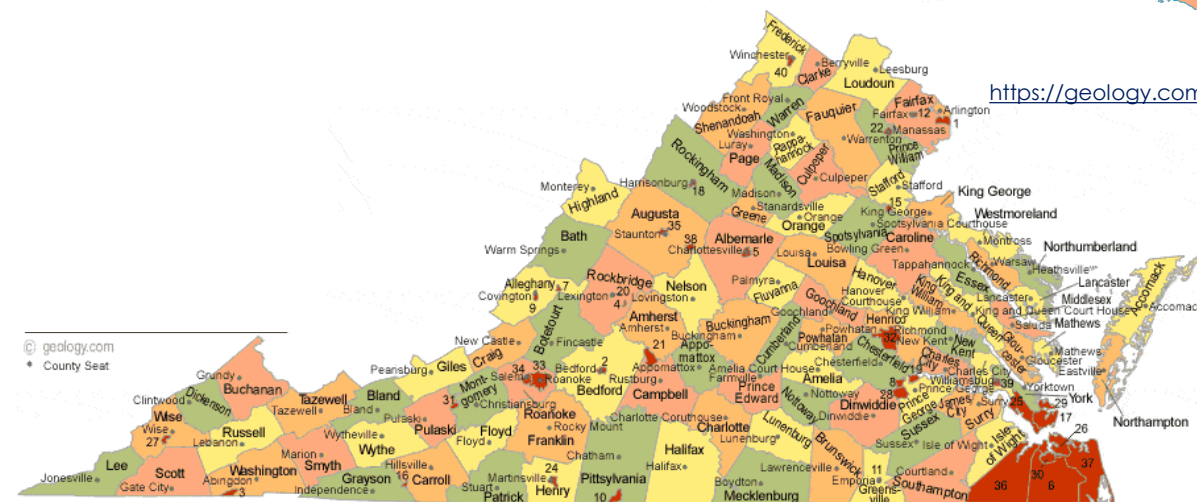
Virginia – **95** (and 38
independent cities)



<https://geology.com/county-map/pennsylvania.shtml>



<https://geology.com/county-map/maryland.shtml>



<https://geology.com/county-map/virginia.shtml>

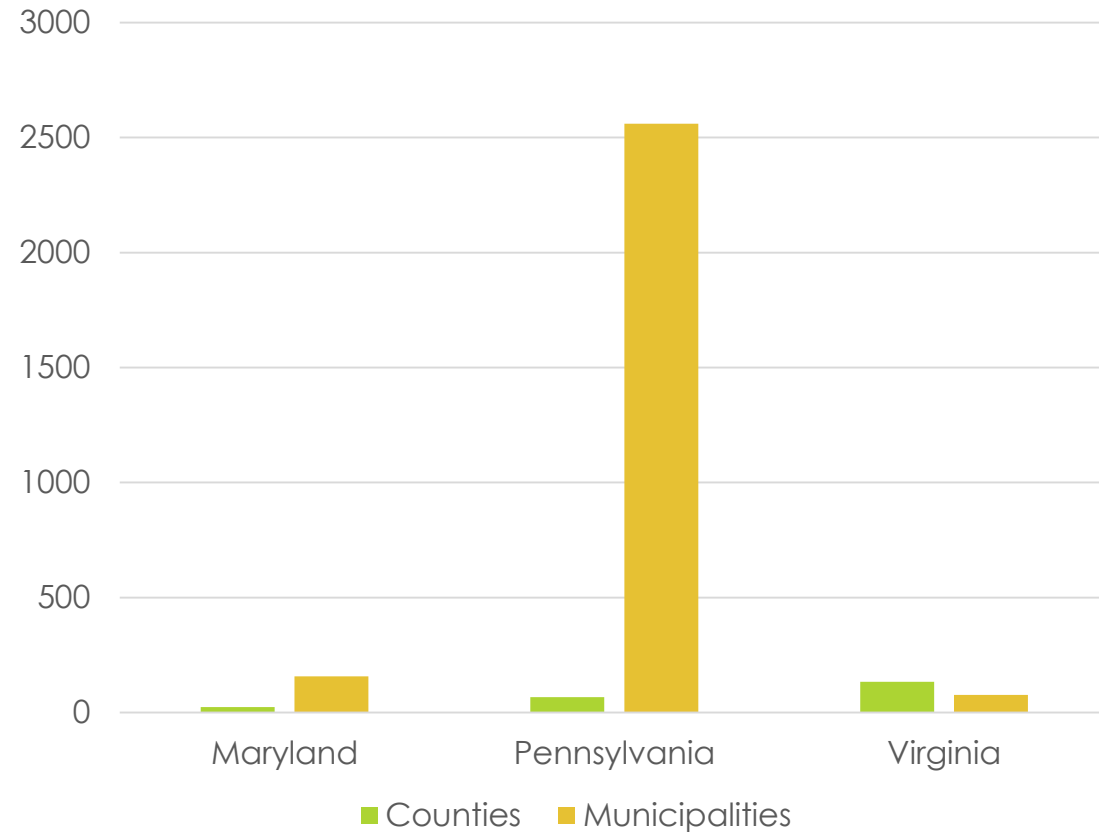
State Overview Municipalities

Maryland – **157** cities, towns,
& villages

Virginia – **76** cities and towns

Pennsylvania – **2,560** cities,
boroughs, townships

Local Government by the Numbers



General Assembly Overview: Districts

Maryland: 47

Pennsylvania: 50 (Senate)
203 (House)

Virginia: 40 (Senate)
100 (House)

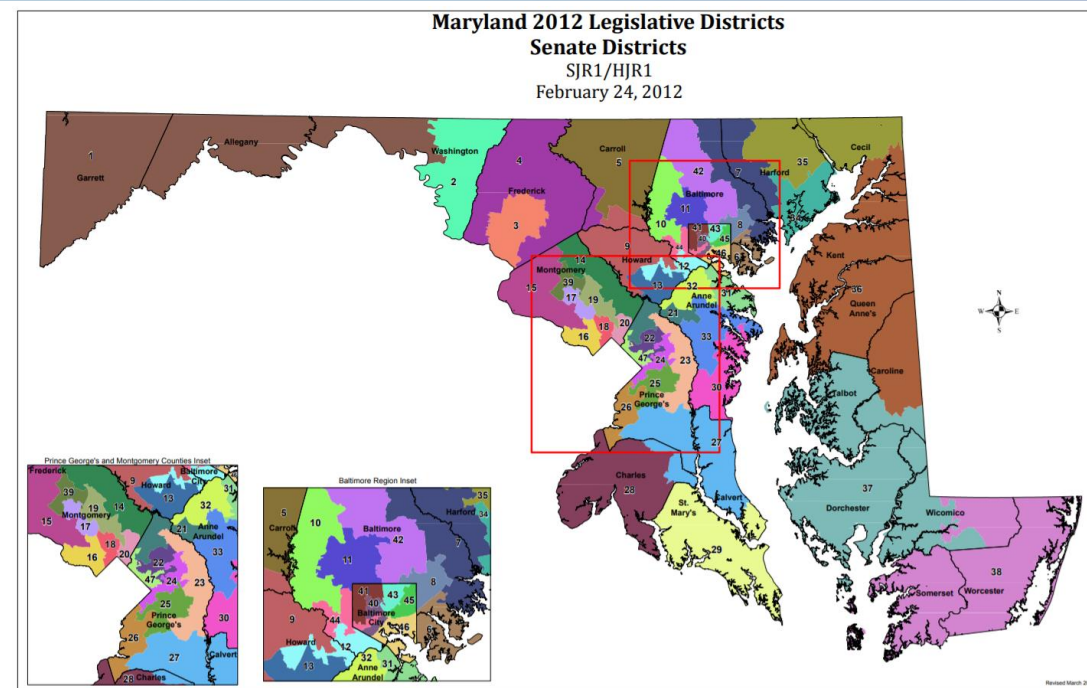
Maryland Districts

Each of the 47 Districts has:
1 Senator & 3 Delegates

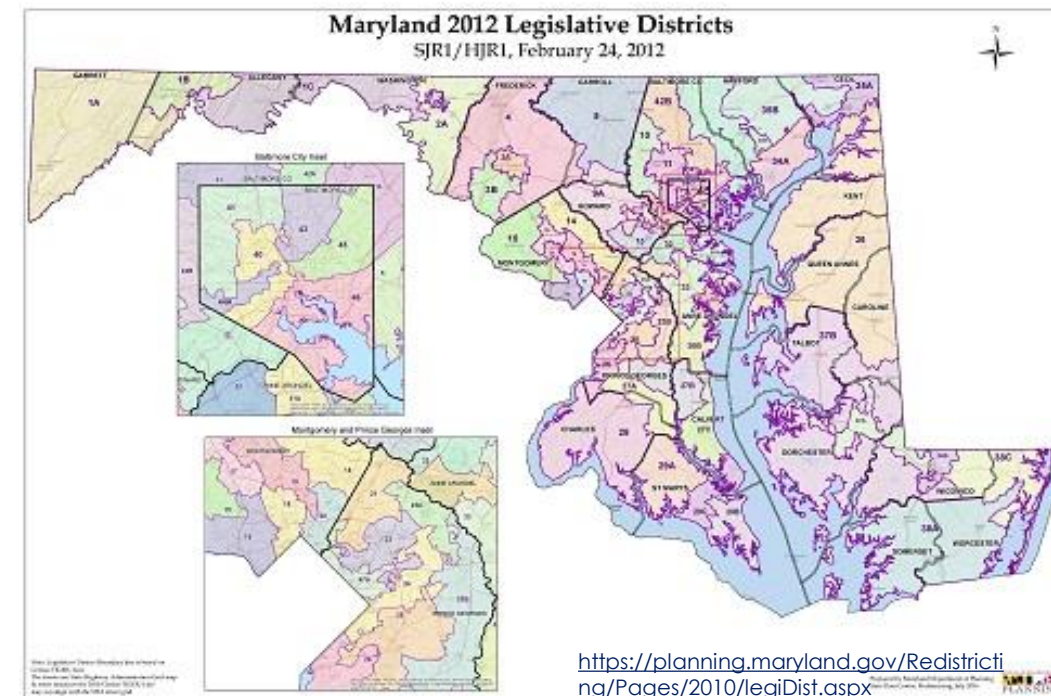
Total of: **47 Senators**
 141 Delegates

Each Senator represents
approximately: **122,842** people

Each Delegate represents
approximately: **40,947 – 123,000**
people



<https://planning.maryland.gov/Redistricting/Documents/2010Maps/Leg/DistrictsSenate.pdf>



<https://planning.maryland.gov/Redistricting/Pages/2010/legiDist.aspx>

Pennsylvania Districts

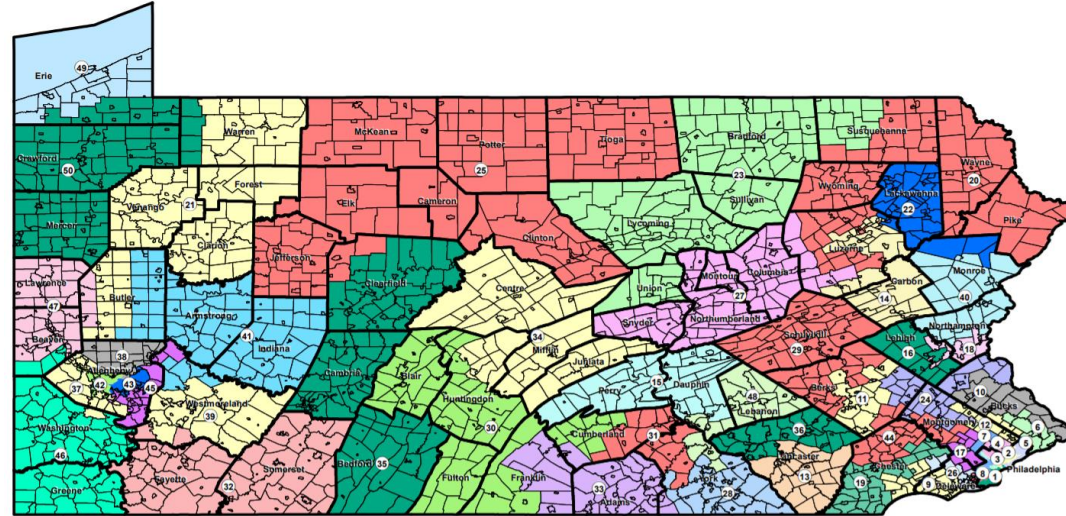
50 Senate Districts

203 House Districts

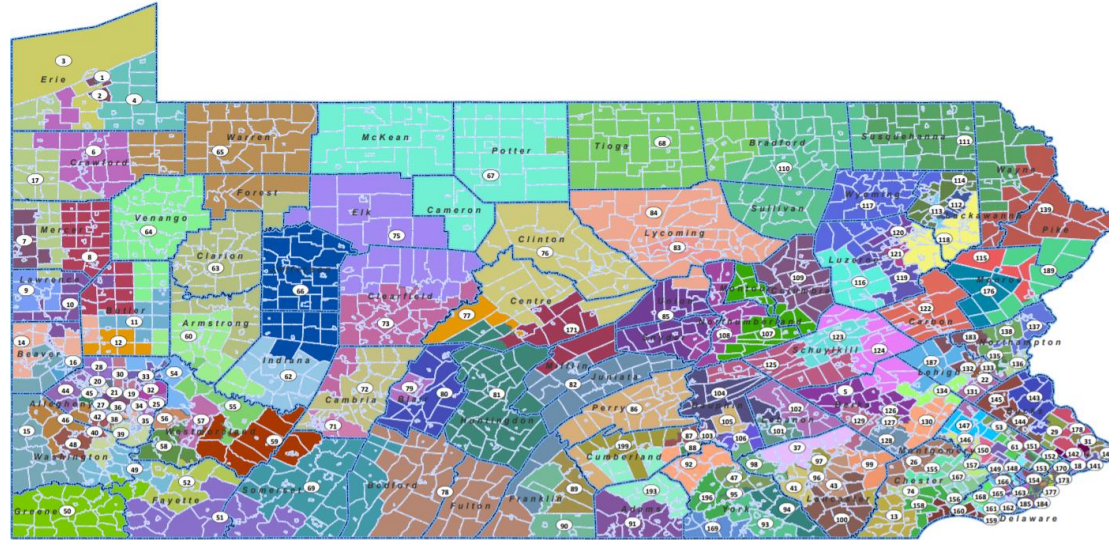
Total of: **50** Senators
 203 Representatives

Each Senator represents
approximately: **254,048** people

Each Representative represents
approximately: **63,573** people



<http://aws.redistricting.state.pa.us/Redistricting/Resources/GISData/Districts/Legislative/Senate/2011-Revised-Final/PDF/FinalSenatePlan2012.pdf>



<http://aws.redistricting.state.pa.us/Redistricting/Resources/GISData/Districts/Legislative/House/2011-Revised-Final/PDF/2011-Revised-Final-Plan-Map-House.pdf>

Virginia Districts

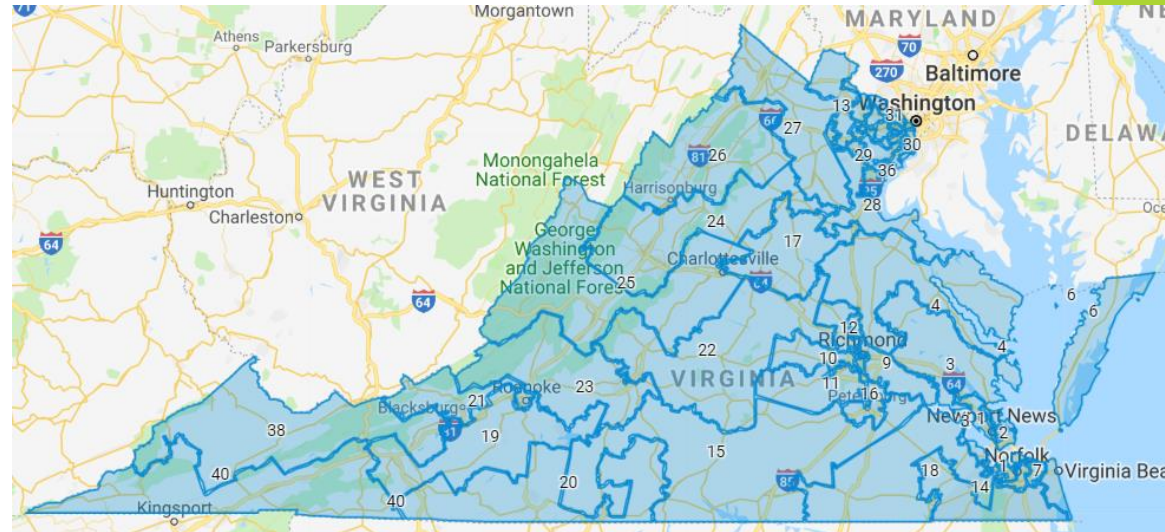
40 Senate Districts

100 House Districts

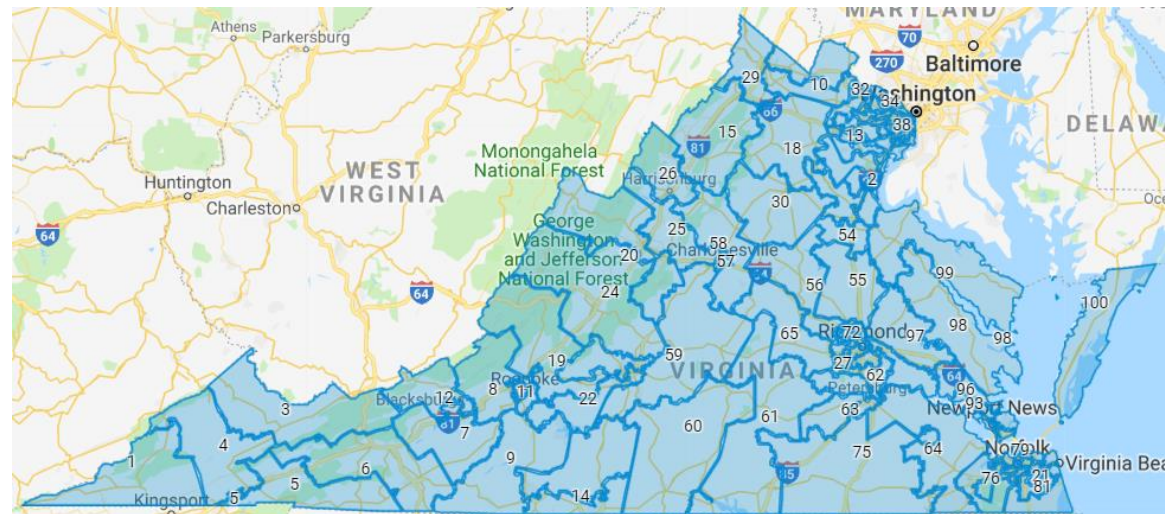
Total of: **40** Senators
 100 Delegates

Each Senator represents
approximately: **200,000** people

Each Delegate represents
approximately: **80,000** people



[https://ballotpedia.org/Virginia State Senate](https://ballotpedia.org/Virginia_State_Senate)



[https://ballotpedia.org/Virginia House of Delegates](https://ballotpedia.org/Virginia_House_of_Delegates)

Differences to Note

*Number of people each elected official represents

	Each House Member	Each Senate Member
Maryland	41,000 – 123,000	123,000
Pennsylvania	63,500	254,000
Virginia	80,000	200,000

*Size of each district

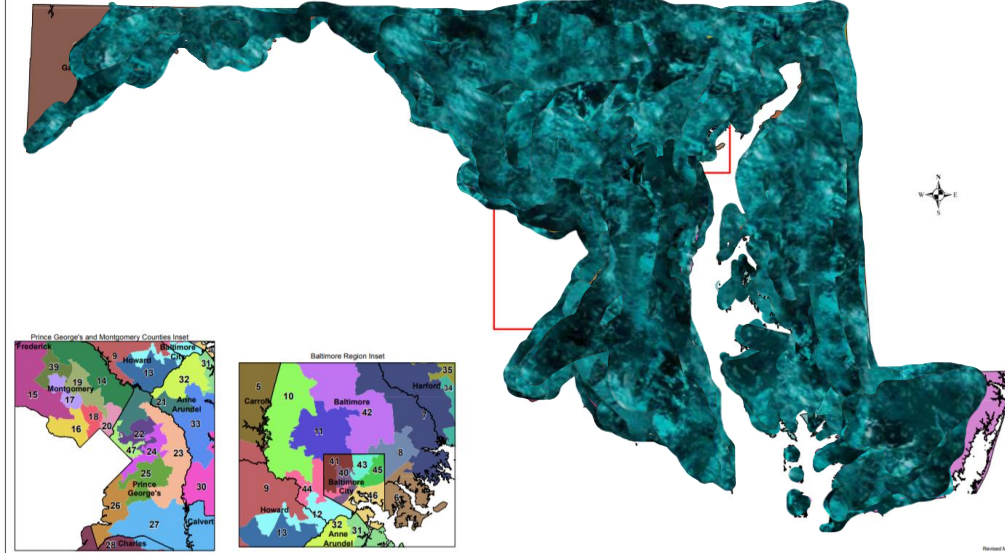
*Numbers of voters within the watershed

Maryland 2012 Legislative Districts

Senate Districts

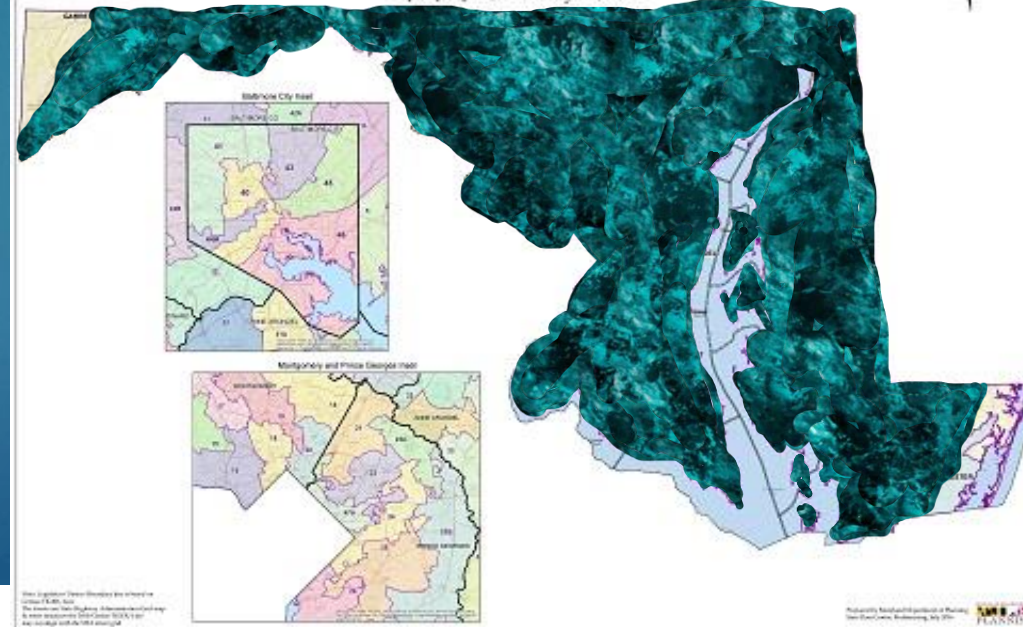
SJR1/HJR1

February 24, 2012

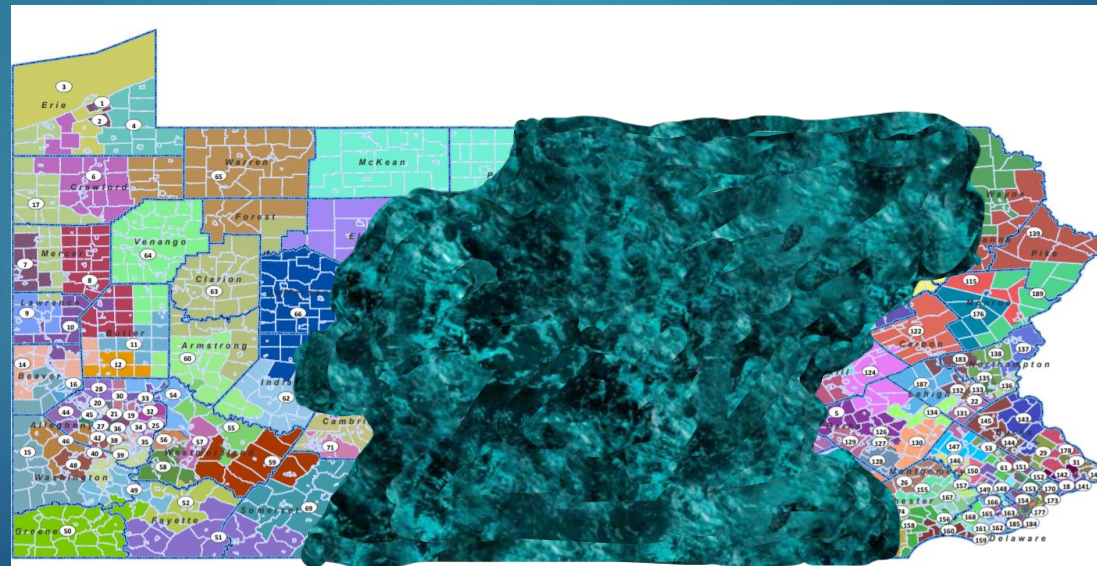
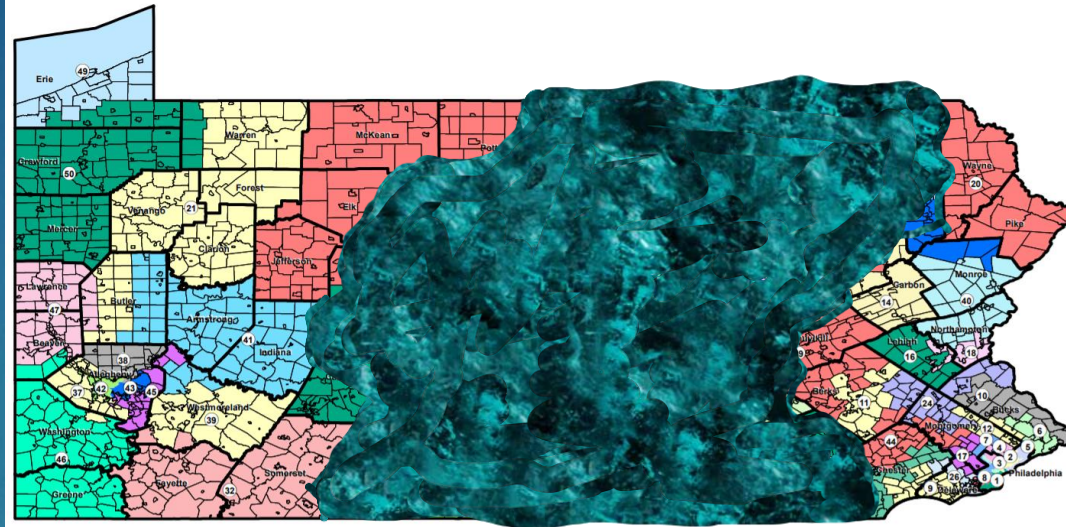


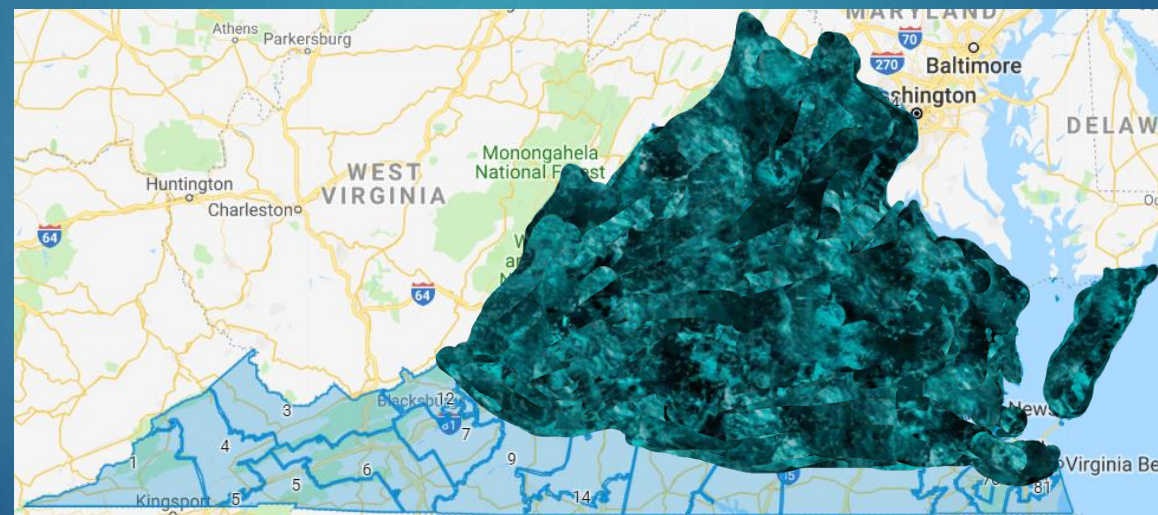
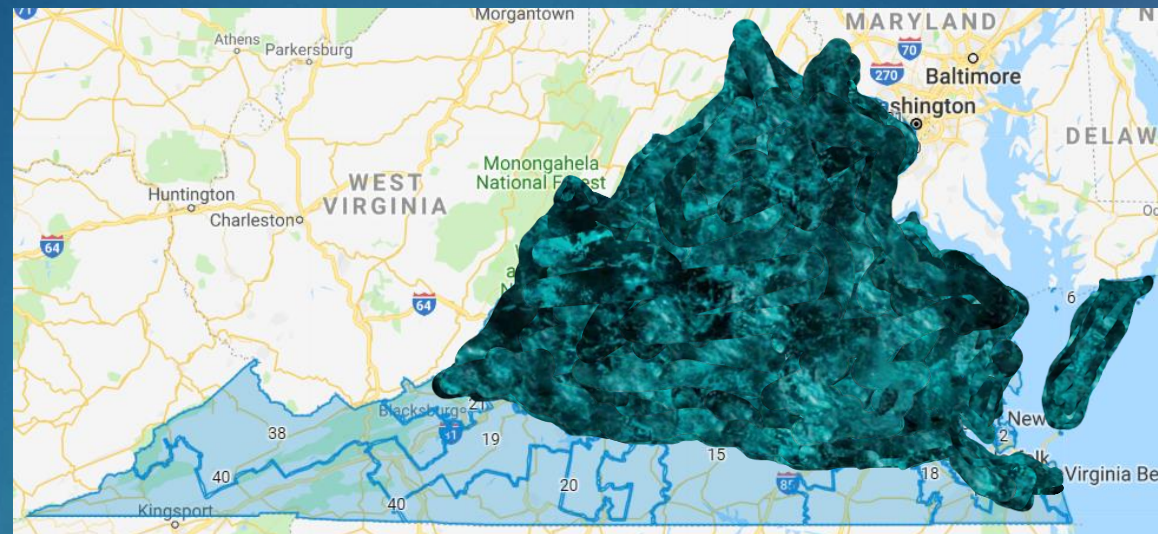
Maryland 2012 Legislative Districts

SJR1/HJR1, February 24, 2012



Pennsylvania Senate Districts
2012 - Legislative Reapportionment Commission Final Plan





General Assembly Overview: Senate

	Total	Republicans	Democrats	Term Length (in years)	Next Election
Maryland	47	15	32	4	2022
Pennsylvania	50	28	22	4	2020
Virginia	40	21	19	4	2019

General Assembly Overview: House

	Total	Republicans	Democrats	Term Length (in years)	Next Election
Maryland	141	42	99	4	2022
Pennsylvania	203	110	93	2	2020
Virginia	100	51	49	2	2019

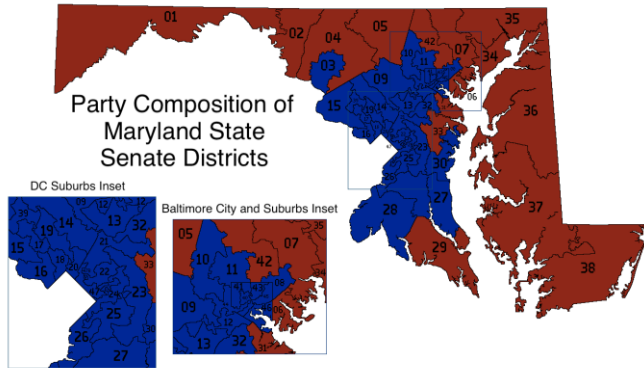
Differences to Note

*Size of each General Assembly

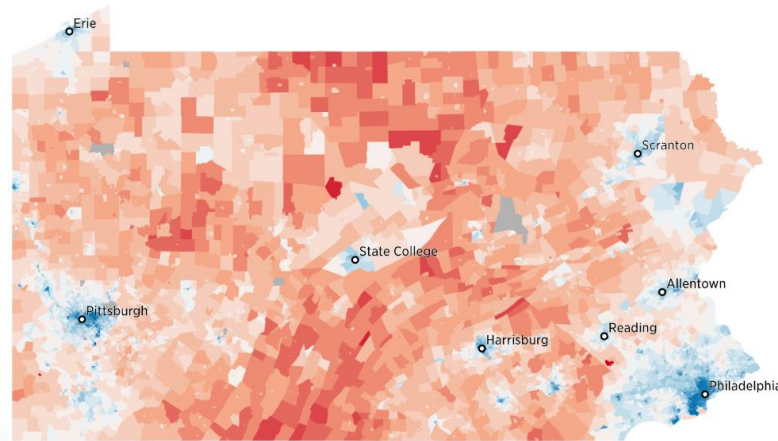
	Total Number of Legislators
Maryland	188
Pennsylvania	253
Virginia	140

*Election Cycles

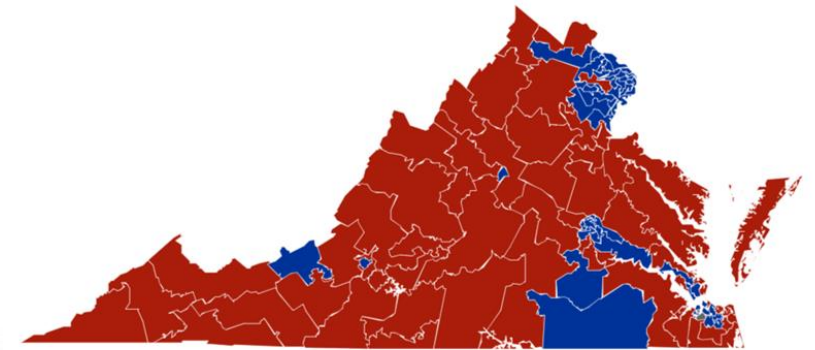
Differences to Note, Cont'd



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maryland_Senate#/media/File:Party_Composition_of_Maryland_State_Senate_Districts.png



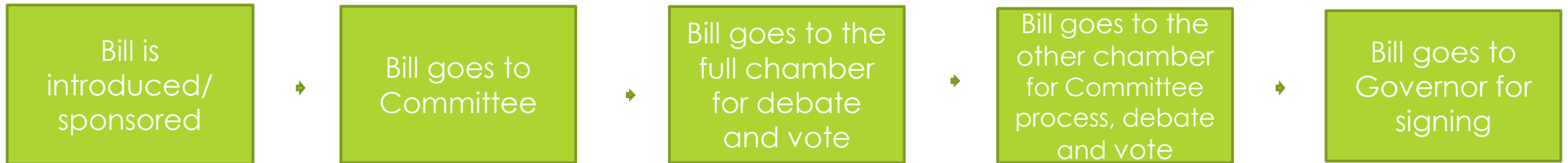
<https://www.inquirer.com/politics/ing/pennsylvania-polarization-election-results-democrats-republicans-trends-map-20190207.html>



https://www.vpap.org/elections/house/district_map/

*Political Party in control of House & Senate

Legislative Process: How a Bill Becomes a Law



Legislative Process: Session Length

Maryland: 90 days

Virginia: 60 days (in even numbered years)
30 (45) days (in odd numbered years)

Pennsylvania: 2 years

Legislative Process: Bill is Introduced

Maryland: ~3,000 bills are introduced per session
(Of the 3,127 bills introduced in 2018, 890 passed, or **28%**)

Bill is
introduced/
sponsored

Pennsylvania: ~4,000 bills are introduced per session
(Of the 4,021 bills introduced in 2017-18, 246 were enacted, or **6%**)

Virginia: ~3,000 bills are introduced per session
(Of the 2,778 bills introduced in 2018, 919 passed, or **33%**)

Legislative Process: Committee Process

Bill goes to
Committee



	House (Standing)	Senate (Standing)
Maryland	6	4
Pennsylvania	24	22
Virginia	14	11

*Hearings – does every bill get a hearing?

*How accessible is this part of the process to the public?

Legislative Process: Full Chamber

Caucus

Bill goes to the
full chamber
for debate
and vote



3 Readings/Considerations

Fiscal Analysis

Proposed Amendments

Legislative Process: Opposite Chamber

Bill goes to the
other chamber
for Committee
process, debate
and vote



See Above...



Legislative Process: Governor

Bill goes to
Governor for
signing



Maryland

House

Senate

Governor Hogan

Pennsylvania

House

Senate

Governor Wolf

Virginia

House

Senate

Governor Northam



Congratulations!



Law!

Takeaways: CBC Mission

“By laws enacted in the three member states more than three decades ago, **the CBC is charged with addressing the broad range of issues and policies that reflect the pollution sources, land uses and human impacts in the Bay region**, an area spanning six states, a 64,000 square mile watershed and 180,000 miles of tributaries and coastline. **Commission members craft and secure passage of laws and policies that must balance many ecological, societal and economic concerns.**

The restoration's primary focus is on clean water, believing that restored water quality will lead to improved conditions for the resources that depend upon it. “

Questions



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