

HOUSE BILL 1525

L3

EMERGENCY BILL

5lr3557

By: **Delegates Harrison and Toles**

Introduced and read first time: February 20, 2025

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Municipalities – Annexation – Limitations**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a municipality from annexing land that is located in a
4 different legislative district than a legislative district in which the municipality is
5 located; and generally relating to municipal annexation.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article – Local Government
8 Section 4–401
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2013 Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Local Government**

14 4–401.

15 (a) Subject to subsections (b) and (c) of this section, the legislative body of a
16 municipality may enlarge its boundaries by annexation as provided in this subtitle.

17 (b) The power of annexation applies only to land that:

18 (1) is contiguous and adjoining to the existing boundaries of the
19 municipality; and

20 (2) does not create an unincorporated area that is bounded on all sides by:

21 (i) real property presently in the boundaries of the municipality;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) real property proposed to be in the boundaries of the municipality
2 as a result of the proposed annexation; or

3 (iii) any combination of real property described in item (i) or (ii) of
4 this item.

5 (c) A municipality may not annex land that is:

6 **(1) in another municipality; OR**

7 **(2) LOCATED IN A DIFFERENT LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT THAN A**
8 **LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT IN WHICH THE MUNICIPALITY OR ANY PART OF THE**
9 **MUNICIPALITY IS LOCATED.**

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency
11 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has
12 been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to
13 each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is
14 enacted.