

Question A - [Bill 19-25](#)

Text of Proposed Charter Amendments (additions in **BOLD CAPS**; deletions in ~~striketrough~~):

Article V – The Administrative Services

Division 3 – Departments in the Administrative Services

Subdivision 1 – Department of Planning

Section 522.1. Duties of the department of planning; limitation of powers.

(a) The department of planning shall have the responsibility and duty of planning for Baltimore County, including:

(1) Preparing, at least every ten years, and revising, a master plan; monitoring the implementation of the master plan; and preparing at least every two years a report to the county executive and county council on the progress achieved toward implementation of the master plan.

(2) Preparing, at least every six years, recommending to the county council, and administering, a zoning map.

(3) Preparing and recommending to the county council rules and regulations governing the subdivision of land, and administering the subdivision rules and regulations as adopted.

(4) Preparing and recommending to the county council zoning rules and regulations which, together with the zoning map, shall constitute a zoning code.

(5) Administering the zoning code.

(b) (1) The master plan shall be adopted as provided by section 523 of this Charter.

(2) **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED BY SECTION 1014 OF THIS CHARTER, A**~~ALL~~ other plans, zoning maps, and rules and regulations recommended for adoption, amendment, or repeal by the department of planning, the planning board or the zoning commissioner shall, prior to taking effect as law, be approved by legislative act of the county council.

Article X – Miscellaneous

SECTION 1014. URBAN-RURAL DEMARCATION LINE.

ANY CHANGES, REVISIONS, OR AMENDMENTS TO THE BOUNDARIES OF THE URBAN-RURAL DEMARCATION LINE (URDL) SHALL REQUIRE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING BOARD AND APPROVAL BY THE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF A MAJORITY PLUS ONE OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS ESTABLISHED BY THIS CHARTER, INCLUDING THE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER OR MEMBERS IN WHOSE DISTRICT THE CHANGE, REVISION, OR AMENDMENT IS LOCATED.

Question B - [Bill 49-25](#)

Text of Proposed Charter Amendments (additions in **BOLD CAPS**; deletions in ~~strikethrough~~):

Article V – The Administrative Services
Division 1 – Outline of Organization
Section 504. Departments.

There shall be the following departments in the administrative services:

...

(15) DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Division 3 – Departments in The Administrative Services
SUBDIVISION 16 – DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SECTION 542.9. DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND PERSONNEL.

(A) THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE SHALL BE ADMINISTERED BY A DIRECTOR WHO SHALL BE APPOINTED SOLELY WITH REGARD TO THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE DUTIES OF THE OFFICE. THE DIRECTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE DIRECTLY TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER.

(B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL HAVE SUCH PERSONNEL AS DEEMED NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES ASSIGNED TO THE DEPARTMENT.

SECTION 542.10. FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE SHALL PROMOTE AGRICULTURE AS A VIABLE COMPONENT OF THE COUNTY'S ECONOMIC SECTOR, ENCOURAGE LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION AS A METHOD OF ADDRESSING FOOD INSECURITY IN THE COUNTY, AND SHALL PERFORM SUCH

OTHER DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS AS MAY BE ASSIGNED FROM TIME TO TIME BY DIRECTIVE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OR BY LEGISLATIVE ACT OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Question C - [Bill 50-25](#)

Text of Proposed Charter Amendments (additions in **BOLD CAPS**; deletions in ~~strikethrough~~):

Article X – Miscellaneous Section
1014. Office of the Inspector General.

... (c) ~~(1)~~ The office shall be headed by an Inspector General, appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the county council. **OR REAPPOINTED IF APPLICABLE BY THE INSPECTOR GENERAL APPOINTMENT BOARD AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 1014.1 OF THIS CHARTER. AS A CONDITION OF APPOINTMENT OR REAPPOINTMENT, DURING THEIR TENURE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL SHALL BE A RESIDENT OF THE BALTIMORE–COLUMBIA–TOWSON METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA AS DEFINED BY THE UNITED STATES OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET.**

~~(2) The County Executive shall conduct an open search process for the Inspector General to meet the qualifications required under subsection (e) of this section, and may use measures, such as regional or national recognized organizations or professional search firms, to review and select an Inspector General candidate for appointment.~~

(d) (1) The Inspector General shall hold office for a term of four years commencing at the time of their appointment **OR REAPPOINTMENT IF APPLICABLE** and continuing until their successor qualifies.

(2) An Inspector General may not serve more than 2 full terms, not including any time served as Inspector General to complete an unexpired term, and shall be subject to appointment for a second term in accordance with the provisions of subsection ~~(e)(1)~~ **(C)** of this section.

(e) The Inspector General shall be professionally qualified, by experience or education, in auditing, law, ethics, compliance, government operations, or financial management, and shall be selected solely on the basis of professional ability and personal integrity, without regard to political affiliation.

(f) (1) The Inspector General may be removed by the County Executive **INSPECTOR GENERAL APPOINTMENT BOARD** before the expiration of the term for which the Inspector General was appointed only for cause, subject to the approval of the county council by a vote of a majority plus one of the members of the county council

AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF A MAJORITY PLUS ONE OF THE CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE APPOINTMENT BOARD.

(2) The cause of removal shall be stated in writing and a public hearing held on the removal **IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 1014.1(I) OF THIS CHARTER.**

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SECTION 1014.1. INSPECTOR GENERAL APPOINTMENT BOARD.

(A) (1) THERE IS AN INSPECTOR GENERAL APPOINTMENT BOARD, WHICH SHALL CONSIST OF 7 MEMBERS AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION.

(2) THE APPOINTMENT BOARD IS ENTITLED TO THE ASSISTANCE OF THE OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES FOR PURPOSES OF ADVERTISING A VACANCY AND INTERVIEWING AND HIRING CANDIDATES FOR THE POSITION OF INSPECTOR GENERAL.

(3) THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE SHALL PROVIDE THE APPOINTMENT BOARD WITH ACCESS TO COUNTY RESOURCES TO FACILITATE AND SUPPORT THE COMPLETION OF THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE APPOINTMENT BOARD.

(B) AN INDIVIDUAL IS QUALIFIED TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE APPOINTMENT BOARD IF THE INDIVIDUAL:

(1) IS A BALTIMORE COUNTY RESIDENT;

(2) IS OVER THE AGE OF 21 YEARS OLD; AND

(3) HAS A BACKGROUND IN, OR FAMILIARITY WITH, ETHICS, LAW, PROGRAM OR PERFORMANCE EVALUATION, OR ACCOUNTING, OR HAS A FAMILIARITY WITH AN OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL AND THE DUTIES OF SUCH AN OFFICE.

(C) IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, AN INDIVIDUAL IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE APPOINTMENT BOARD IF THE INDIVIDUAL:

(1) IS CURRENTLY OR BECOMES AN EMPLOYEE OR ELECTED OFFICER OF:

(I) THE STATE;

(II) BALTIMORE COUNTY; OR

(III) ANY STATE OR COUNTY AGENCY, INSTRUMENTALITY, OR ANY OTHER UNIT OF A STATE ENTITY EXCEPT:

1. A STATE COLLEGE;

2. A STATE UNIVERSITY; OR

3. ANOTHER INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION;

(2) IS CURRENTLY OR BECOMES A CANDIDATE FOR ELECTED PUBLIC OFFICE OF:

(I) THE STATE;

(II) BALTIMORE COUNTY; OR

(III) ANY OTHER COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY OF THE STATE;
(3) IS CURRENTLY OR BECOMES AN ELECTED COUNTY OFFICER'S:
(I) SPOUSE;
(II) PARENT;
(III) CHILD; OR (IV) SIBLING;
(4) IS CURRENTLY OR BECOMES A RESPONSIBLE OFFICER, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 1-101(MM) OF THE STATE ELECTION LAW ARTICLE;
(5) IS CURRENTLY OR BECOMES EMPLOYED BY BALTIMORE COUNTY OR THE STATE IN ANY CAPACITY;
(6) IS CURRENTLY OR BECOMES A LOBBYIST UNDER:
(I) TITLE 5 OF THE STATE GENERAL PROVISIONS ARTICLE;
(II) ARTICLE 7, SUBTITLE 5 OF THE COUNTY CODE; OR
(III) THE ETHICS CODE OF ANY POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE;
(7) HAS BEEN WITHIN THE PREVIOUS TWO YEARS, IS CURRENTLY, OR BECOMES ASSOCIATED WITH A BUSINESS ENTITY AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 7-1-301 OF THE COUNTY CODE; OR
(8) HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF A FELONY OR MISDEMEANOR WITH A STATUTORY PENALTY OF MORE THAN 2 YEARS OR IMPRISONED FOR SUCH A CONVICTION WITHIN 10 YEARS OF THE APPOINTMENT.
(D) (1) THE APPOINTMENT BOARD SHALL CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WHO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTIONS (B) AND (C) OF THIS SECTION AND ARE SELECTED TO SERVE ON THE APPOINTMENT BOARD AS FOLLOWS:
(I) AN INDIVIDUAL APPOINTED BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE;
(II) AN INDIVIDUAL APPOINTED BY A MAJORITY OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL;
(III) THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS SELECTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE ETHICS COMMISSION:
1. A FORMER OR RETIRED JUDGE OF A MARYLAND APPELLATE COURT, CIRCUIT COURT, DISTRICT COURT, OR STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS;
2. A MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CERTIFIED FRAUD EXAMINERS;
3. A MEMBER OF THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS;
4. A FACULTY MEMBER AT A COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY LOCATED IN BALTIMORE COUNTY; AND
5. A FACULTY MEMBER AT AN HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY LOCATED IN THE BALTIMORE REGION OR A LAW SCHOOL IN THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

(2) IN SELECTING THE MEMBERS PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (1)(III) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE DIRECTOR OF THE ETHICS COMMISSION SHALL REQUEST THE SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS FROM WHICH TO MAKE THE SELECTIONS.

(3) THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE APPOINTMENT BOARD SHALL BE INCLUSIVE AND REFLECT THE RACIAL AND GENDER DIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE COUNTY.

(4) THE DIRECTOR OF THE ETHICS COMMISSION SHALL SERVE AS A NON-VOTING EX OFFICIO SECRETARY TO THE APPOINTMENT BOARD.

(5) THE MEMBERS OF THE FIRST APPOINTMENT BOARD SHALL SERVE A TERM COMMENCING AT THE TIME OF THEIR APPOINTMENT AND EXPIRING ON JANUARY 31, 2031, WHEREAFTER THE TERM OF EACH MEMBER SHALL BE 4 YEARS AND EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31.

(6) A MEMBER OF THE APPOINTMENT BOARD MAY SERVE UP TO 2 FULL TERMS.

(E) (1) A QUORUM OF THE APPOINTMENT BOARD CONSISTS OF 4 MEMBERS

(2) THE APPOINTMENT BOARD SHALL ELECT A CHAIR FROM THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE APPOINTMENT BOARD.

(3) AN AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF THE CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE APPOINTMENT BOARD SHALL BE NECESSARY TO APPOINT OR REAPPOINT, AS APPLICABLE, A PERSON TO THE POSITION OF INSPECTOR GENERAL.

(F) (1) (I) A MEMBER OF THE APPOINTMENT BOARD MAY BE REMOVED FOR CAUSE, INCLUDING OPERATIONAL INTERFERENCE OR FAILURE TO ATTEND MEETINGS, BY AN AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF THE CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE APPOINTMENT BOARD.

(II) PRIOR TO A VOTE TO REMOVE A MEMBER OF THE APPOINTMENT BOARD, THE MEMBER SUBJECT TO THE REMOVAL:

1. SHALL BE PRESENTED WITH A WRITTEN STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE REMOVAL; AND

2. MAY REQUEST THAT A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE ENTIRE APPOINTMENT BOARD TAKE PLACE WITHIN 10 DAYS OF RECEIVING THE STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR REMOVAL.

(2) A MEMBER OF THE APPOINTMENT BOARD WHO IS CONVICTED OF A FELONY OR A MISDEMEANOR WITH A STATUTORY PENALTY OF MORE THAN 2 YEARS DURING THEIR TERM SHALL REPORT THE SAME TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE ETHICS COMMISSION AND SHALL BE REMOVED.

(G) PRIOR TO BEGINNING THEIR DUTIES, THE MEMBERS OF THE APPOINTMENT BOARD SHALL ATTEND A TRAINING SESSION, TO BE PROVIDED BY THE ETHICS COMMISSION, THAT DETAILS:

(1) THE RULES GOVERNING THE APPOINTMENT BOARD; AND

(2) THE RULES, POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND DUTIES OF THE OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL.

(H) (1) THE APPOINTMENT BOARD SHALL MEET AS NECESSARY TO FULFILL THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION AND THE COUNTY CODE.

(2) WITHIN 90 DAYS OF THE EXPIRATION OF A TERM OR THE OCCURRENCE OF A VACANCY IN THE POSITION OF INSPECTOR GENERAL, THE APPOINTMENT BOARD SHALL MEET TO DISCUSS THE APPOINTMENT OR REAPPOINTMENT, IF APPLICABLE, OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL.

(3) THE APPOINTMENT BOARD SHALL HAVE THE DISCRETION BY AN AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF THE CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE APPOINTMENT BOARD TO DETERMINE WHETHER TO:

(I) REAPPOINT THE INSPECTOR GENERAL, IF THE INCUMBENT IS ELIGIBLE FOR REAPPOINTMENT; OR

(II) CONDUCT AN OPEN SEARCH FOR THE POSITION OF INSPECTOR GENERAL UPON THE EXPIRATION OF A TERM OR THE OCCURRENCE OF A VACANCY.

(4) IF THE APPOINTMENT BOARD DETERMINES THAT THE INSPECTOR GENERAL IS TO BE REAPPOINTED, THE BOARD SHALL REAPPOINT THE INSPECTOR GENERAL WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE DETERMINATION.

(5) (I) IF THE APPOINTMENT BOARD DETERMINES THAT AN OPEN SEARCH IS TO BE CONDUCTED, THE BOARD SHALL NOTIFY THE INCUMBENT, IF APPLICABLE, AND THE OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES IN WRITING WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE DETERMINATION.

(II) THE OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES SHALL POST A POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE COUNTY'S WEBSITE AND MAY UTILIZE OTHER RECRUITMENT SITES OR PUBLICATIONS TO ADVERTISE THE POSITION OF INSPECTOR GENERAL. THE APPOINTMENT BOARD MAY ALSO UTILIZE PROFESSIONAL SEARCH FIRMS IF NECESSARY.

(III) THE APPOINTMENT BOARD SHALL REVIEW THE APPLICATIONS AND INTERVIEW QUALIFIED CANDIDATES FOR THE POSITION OF INSPECTOR GENERAL.

(IV) THE FINAL CANDIDATE SELECTED TO FILL THE POSITION OF INSPECTOR GENERAL SHALL BE APPOINTED BY AN AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF THE CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE APPOINTMENT BOARD.

(6) THE APPOINTMENT BOARD SHALL FULFILL THE DUTIES OF THIS SUBSECTION IN A TIMELY MANNER IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE EFFECTIVENESS AND CONTINUITY OF THE OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL.

(I) (1) THE INSPECTOR GENERAL MAY BE REMOVED BY THE APPOINTMENT BOARD BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF THE TERM FOR WHICH THE INSPECTOR GENERAL WAS APPOINTED ONLY FOR CAUSE INCLUDING:

- (I) MISCONDUCT IN OFFICE;
 - (II) PERSISTENT FAILURE TO PERFORM THE DUTIES OF OFFICE;
 - (III) CONDUCT PREJUDICIAL TO THE PROPER ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE;
 - OR
 - (IV) CONVICTION OF A FELONY.
- (2) (I) BEFORE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL APPOINTMENT BOARD MAY REMOVE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL, THE BOARD SHALL PROVIDE A WRITTEN STATEMENT TO THE INSPECTOR GENERAL, THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE, AND THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE REASONS FOR THE REMOVAL.
- (II) THE INSPECTOR GENERAL MAY REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL APPOINTMENT BOARD ON THE REMOVAL WITHIN 10 DAYS. THE BOARD SHALL HOLD THE PUBLIC HEARING WITHIN 21 DAYS OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL'S REQUEST.
- (III) FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC HEARING, OR IF A PUBLIC HEARING IS NOT REQUESTED, THE INSPECTOR GENERAL APPOINTMENT BOARD MAY REMOVE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL BY THE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF A MAJORITY PLUS ONE OF THE CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.
- (J) (1) MEETINGS OF THE APPOINTMENT BOARD SHALL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC UNDER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT, EXCEPT UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH A CLOSED MEETING IS PERMITTED BY LAW.
- (2) AN AGENDA SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE AT LEAST 3 DAYS PRIOR TO A MEETING IN AN ELECTRONIC FORMAT READILY AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.
- (3) MEETING MINUTES SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE WITHIN 2 WEEKS IN AN ELECTRONIC FORMAT READILY AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.

Question D - [Bill 52-26](#)

Text of Proposed Charter Amendments (additions in **BOLD CAPS**; deletions in ~~strikethrough~~):

Article XII – Manner of Terminating this Charter and Making Amendments Thereto
Sec. 1203. Charter review commission.

(a) A decennial Charter review commission shall be appointed by the county council and county executive by March 1 in the seventh year of each decade. The Charter review commission shall be established, by resolution, and be composed of ~~eleven~~ **THIRTEEN** members who must be residents of the county, with one member appointed by each council member and two appointed by the county executive. A person who holds elective office is not eligible for appointment to the commission. The county attorney shall be an ex officio member of the commission. The chairperson of the

county council shall appoint an additional member to serve as the chairperson of the commission.

Question E - [Bill 61-26](#)

Text of Proposed Charter Amendments (additions in **BOLD CAPS**; deletions in ~~strikethrough~~):

Article V – The Administrative Services

Division 3 – Departments in the Administrative Services

Subdivision 4 – Department of Recreation and Parks

Section 533. Board of recreation and parks.

(a) There shall be a board of recreation and parks which shall consist of a ~~representative~~ **DISTRICT-LEVEL MEMBER** selected from among the qualified residents of each councilmanic district plus ~~three~~ **FOUR** additional **AT-LARGE** members selected from among the qualified residents of the entire county; provided, however, that not more than two members thereof shall reside in any one councilmanic district; and provided further, that no member of the board shall be required to vacate ~~his~~ **THEIR** office prior to the expiration of the term for which the member was appointed by reason of any revision in the boundary lines of the councilmanic districts. The members of the board shall be appointed by the county executive **FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS** and shall have resided within the county for a period of three years preceding their appointment. **THE APPOINTMENT OF DISTRICT-LEVEL MEMBERS SHALL BE MADE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE COUNTY COUNCILMEMBER OF THE DISTRICT.** ~~A minimum of three members]~~ **MEMBERS** of the board shall be appointed with due regard to their training, experience, and interest in ~~the natural sciences and conservation.~~ **RECREATION, NATURE, ARTS, SCIENCES, AND PARKS.** Additional qualifications and the terms of office of members of the board shall be as provided by law.

(b) Unless and until otherwise provided by legislative act of the county council, ~~the board of recreation and parks shall have and perform all duties and functions relating to the formulation of plans and policies for public recreation, the organization of recreation councils, the establishment of recreation programs and the acquisition, management, preservation and development of all lands, waters, buildings and other facilities in Baltimore County as parks and recreation areas and facilities, subject, nevertheless, to all provisions of this Charter, including those dealing with the employment, suspension and discharge of personnel, the expenditure of county funds, the making of purchases, and the awarding of contracts.~~ **THE BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARKS,**

SERVING IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS, SHALL:

- (1) HOLD REGULAR MEETINGS;**
- (2) PROMOTE THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS AND ADVISE THE DIRECTOR OF RECREATION AND PARKS ON MATTERS RELATED TO RECREATION, NATURE, OPEN SPACE, ARTS, AND CULTURE;**
- (3) ADVOCATE FOR PROGRAMS, ACTIVITIES, AMENITIES, CAPITAL ENHANCEMENTS, ACQUISITIONS, AND INVESTMENTS THAT BENEFIT THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS AND THE COUNTY;**
- (4) ENGAGE RESIDENTS, NATURE AND RECREATION COUNCILS, AND EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS; AND**
- (5) WORK ON OTHER ISSUES AS REQUESTED BY AND IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS.**