

HOUSE BILL 217

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CF 01r0490

By: **Delegates Cardin, Ali, Elmore, Frick, Rice, Ross, and Walker**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2010

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Elections – Voter Registration and Voting – Age

FOR the purpose of altering the qualifications for voter registration to allow an individual who is at least 16 years old to register to vote; specifying that an individual is not eligible to vote until a certain election in which the individual is 18 years old or older; and generally relating to the age when an individual becomes qualified to register to vote and to vote.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Election Law

Section 3–102

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2003 Volume and 2009 Supplement)

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

Article – Election Law

3–102.

(a) **(1)** Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, an individual may become registered to vote if the individual:

[(1)] **(I)** is a citizen of the United States;

[(2)] **(II)** is at least ~~[18]~~ **16** years old [or will be 18 years old on or before the day of the next succeeding general or special election];

[(3)] **(III)** is a resident of the State as of the day the individual seeks to register; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



[(4)] (IV) registers pursuant to this title.

(2) NOTWITHSTANDING PARAGRAPH (1)(II) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AN INDIVIDUAL IS NOT QUALIFIED TO VOTE UNTIL THE FIRST GENERAL OR SPECIAL ELECTION THAT OCCURS WHILE THE INDIVIDUAL IS 18 YEARS OLD OR OLDER.

(b) An individual is not qualified to be a registered voter if the individual:

(1) has been convicted of a felony and is actually serving a court-ordered sentence of imprisonment, including any term of parole or probation, for the conviction;

(2) is under guardianship for mental disability; or

(3) has been convicted of buying or selling votes.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2010.