HOUSE BILL 25

L3, G1   4lr0922

(PRE–FILED)

By: **Delegate George**
Requested: November 13, 2013
Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2014
Assigned to: Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable
House action: Adopted
Read second time: February 25, 2014

CHAPTER _____

1   AN ACT concerning

2   **Local Government – Municipal Elections – No–Excuse Absentee Voting**

3   FOR the purpose of prohibiting a municipality from requiring an individual to provide
4   a certain reason in order to vote by absentee ballot; and generally relating to
5   absentee voting in municipal elections.

6   BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7   Article – Local Government
8   Section 4–108
9   Annotated Code of Maryland
10   (2013 Volume)

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

13   **Article – Local Government**

14   4–108.

15   (a)   A qualified voter may vote in a municipal election by absentee ballot.

16   (b)   **(1)**   [A] **SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A**
17   municipality shall provide a procedure to vote by absentee ballot.

EXPLANATION: **CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**
   [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
   Underlining indicates amendments to bill.
   ~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by
   amendment.

1   **(2)   A MUNICIPALITY MAY NOT REQUIRE AN INDIVIDUAL TO**
2   **PROVIDE A REASON THAT THE INDIVIDUAL WILL BE UNABLE TO VOTE IN**
3   **PERSON ON ELECTION DAY IN ORDER TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT.**

4   (c)   A municipality may use any method to enable absentee voters to vote,
5   including using any facilities to transmit and receive applications for absentee ballots.

6   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
7   June 1, 2014.

Approved:

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                                                           Governor.

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                                          Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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                                                President of the Senate.