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

A BILL ENTITLED

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:

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.

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

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

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