G1 6lr0508 CF 6lr2149

By: Senators Kagan and Hershey

Introduced and read first time: January 18, 2016

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

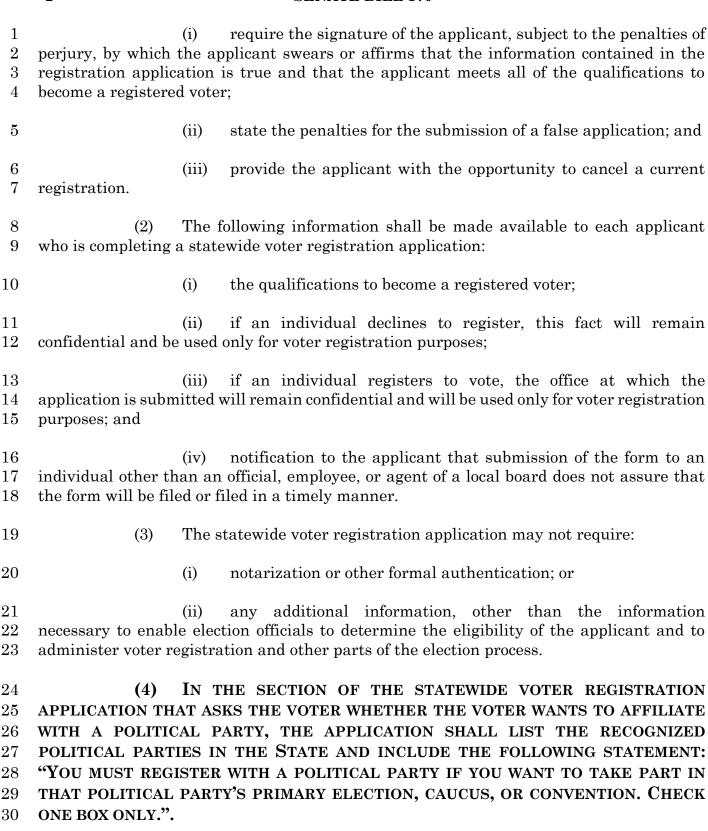
A BILL ENTITLED

1	AN ACT concerning
2 3	Voter Registration – Affiliation With Political Party and Participation in Primary Election, Caucus, or Convention
4	FOR the purpose of requiring certain voter registration applications used in the State to
5	include a certain statement concerning registration with a political party and the
6	effect of the failure of the voter to affiliate with a political party on the voter's right
7	to participate in primary elections, caucuses, or conventions for a political party;
8 9	providing that certain voter registration applications may continue to be used after the effective date of this Act; and generally relating to voter registration applications.
10	BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11	Article – Election Law
12	Section 3–202
13	Annotated Code of Maryland
14	(2010 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)
15	BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
16	Article – Election Law
17	Section 3–203 and 3–303
18	Annotated Code of Maryland
19	(2010 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)
20	SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
21	That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
22	Article – Election Law
23	3–202.
24	(a) (1) The statewide voter registration application shall:

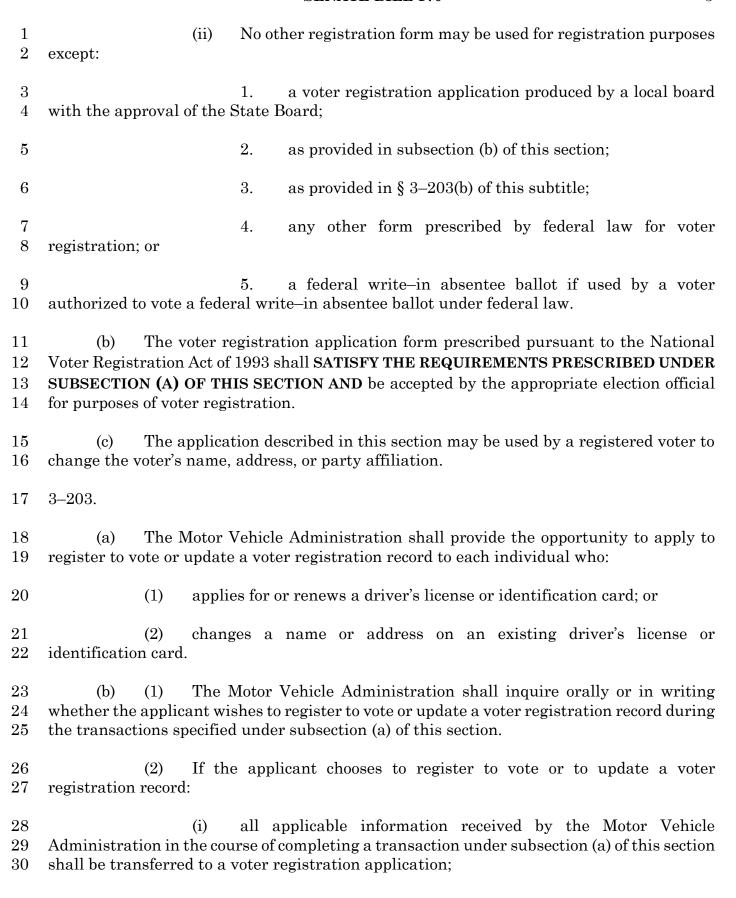
EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

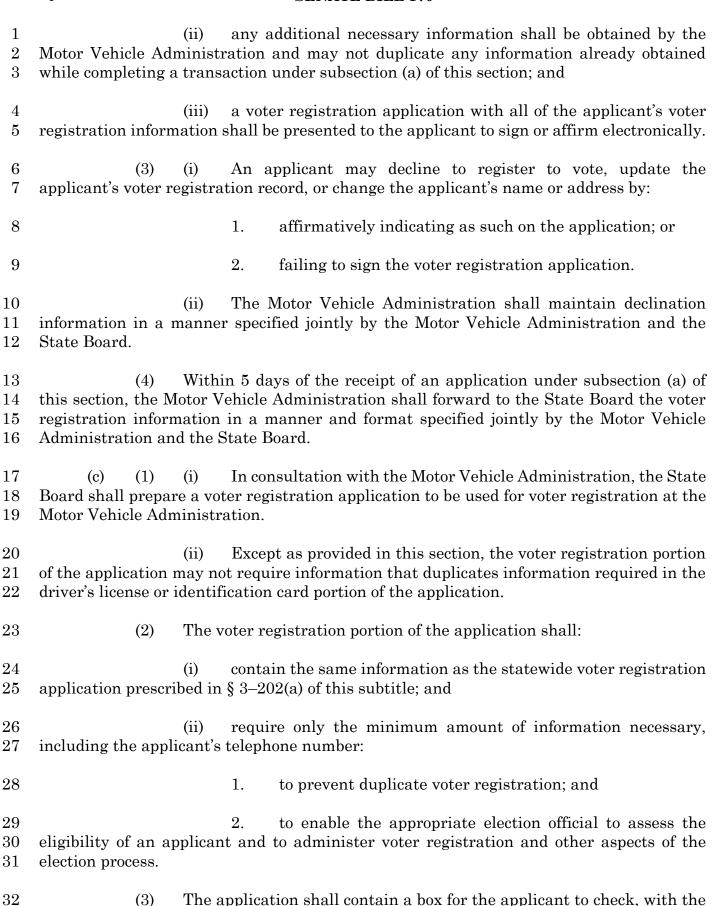




[(4)] (5) (i) A statewide voter registration application shall be produced exclusively by the State Board.



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statement, "I do not wish to register to vote at this time".

- 1 (d) The Motor Vehicle Administration shall follow the procedures established 2 jointly by the Motor Vehicle Administration and the State Board to process the voter 3 registration information received under this section.
- 4 (e) Information relating to the failure of an applicant for a driver's license or 5 identification card to register to vote may not be used for any purpose other than the 6 maintenance of registration statistics.
- 7 3–303.
- 8 (a) Notification of a change of party affiliation or a change to or from a decline 9 may be made:
- 10 (1) by information provided on a voter registration application by the same 11 methods provided for registration under Subtitle 2 of this title;
- 12 (2) by written notice, signed by the voter and sent by mail or otherwise 13 delivered to the local board in the county where the voter's current voter registration 14 address is located or to which the voter has moved;
- 15 (3) by making application in person at the office of the local board in the county where the voter's current voter registration address is located or to which the voter 17 has moved:
- 18 (4) by information on a voter authority card or other appropriate form filled 19 out in a polling place; or
- 20 (5) by changing a name or address with the Motor Vehicle Administration.
- 21 (b) Party affiliation changes or changes to or from a decline:
- 22 (1) shall be processed at any time that registration is open; and
- 23 (2) except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, may not be processed 24 when registration is closed.
- 25 (c) If a local board receives a request for a party affiliation change after the close of registration, the local board shall make the change and it shall become effective for the next election provided:
- 28 (1) there is sufficient evidence, as determined by the local boards pursuant 29 to regulations adopted by the State Board, that the request was mailed on or before the 30 close of registration for that election; or

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1 (2) the request was submitted by the voter to the Motor Vehicle 2 Administration, a voter registration agency, another local board, or the State Board on or 3 before the close of registration for that election.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That a statewide voter registration application produced by the State Board of Elections under § 3–202(a) of the Election Law Article or a voter registration application form produced pursuant to the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 under § 3–202(b) of the Election Law Article and use for voter registration in the State prior to the effective date of this Act, but that is submitted to an appropriate election official for purposes of voter registration after the effective date of this Act, shall be accepted by the appropriate election official for purposes of voter registration.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2016.