Chapter 745

(Senate Bill 730)

AN ACT concerning

Local Government – Municipal Elections – No–Excuse Absentee Voting

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

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Local Government
Section 4–108
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2013 Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

Article – Local Government

4–108.

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

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

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

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

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2018.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2018.