

SENATE BILL 476

G1, P5

9lr2555

By: **Senator Kramer**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2019

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of Legislative Services – Voting by Mail – Study**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Legislative Services, in consultation with
4 the State Board of Elections and the Maryland Association of Election Officials, to
5 study and make recommendations regarding certain requirements to implement
6 voting by mail and the return of mail-in ballots by alternate methods; requiring the
7 Department to research certain options and make certain recommendations;
8 requiring the Department to submit its findings and recommendations to the
9 General Assembly on or before a certain date; and generally relating to a study of
10 voting by mail.

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
12 That:

13 (a) The Department of Legislative Services, in coordination with the State Board
14 of Elections and the Maryland Association of Election Officials, shall study and make
15 recommendations regarding the administrative, technological, legal, security, and fiscal
16 requirements to implement voting by mail and the return of mail-in ballots by alternate
17 methods.

18 (b) In conducting the study required under subsection (a) of this section, the
19 Department of Legislative Services shall:

20 (1) research options for convenient, reliable, and secure procedures and
21 materials for voting by mail; and

22 (2) make recommendations regarding a plan of action and milestones for
23 designing, testing, and implementing a system for voting by mail, including proposed
24 legislation and any necessary administrative changes.

25 (c) On or before December 1, 2019, the Department of Legislative Services shall

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 submit its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly, in accordance with §
2 2–1246 of the State Government Article.

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
4 1, 2019.