# **HOUSE BILL 648**

C5, C1 1lr2199 CF 1lr2287

By: Delegate Wilson

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2021

Assigned to: Economic Matters

#### A BILL ENTITLED

4	A 7 T		•
L	AN	ACT	concerning

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# **Electric Cooperatives - Meetings - Alterations**

- 3 FOR the purpose of authorizing an electric cooperative to hold certain meetings virtually 4 or with a combination of in-person and virtual attendance; requiring the notice for 5 a meeting that will be held virtually or with a combination of in-person and virtual 6 attendance to include certain information; altering the requirements for a quorum 7 to include members attending the meeting rather than members present in person; 8 repealing the requirement that for voting to occur in a certain manner the manner 9 must be provided in an electric cooperative's bylaws; authorizing voting in any manner provided in an electric cooperative's bylaws; making stylistic and conforming 10 11 changes; and generally relating to meetings of members of electric cooperatives.
- 12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 13 Article Corporations and Associations
- 14 Section 5–616 through 5–619
- 15 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 16 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)
- 17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
- 18 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

# 19 Article - Corporations and Associations

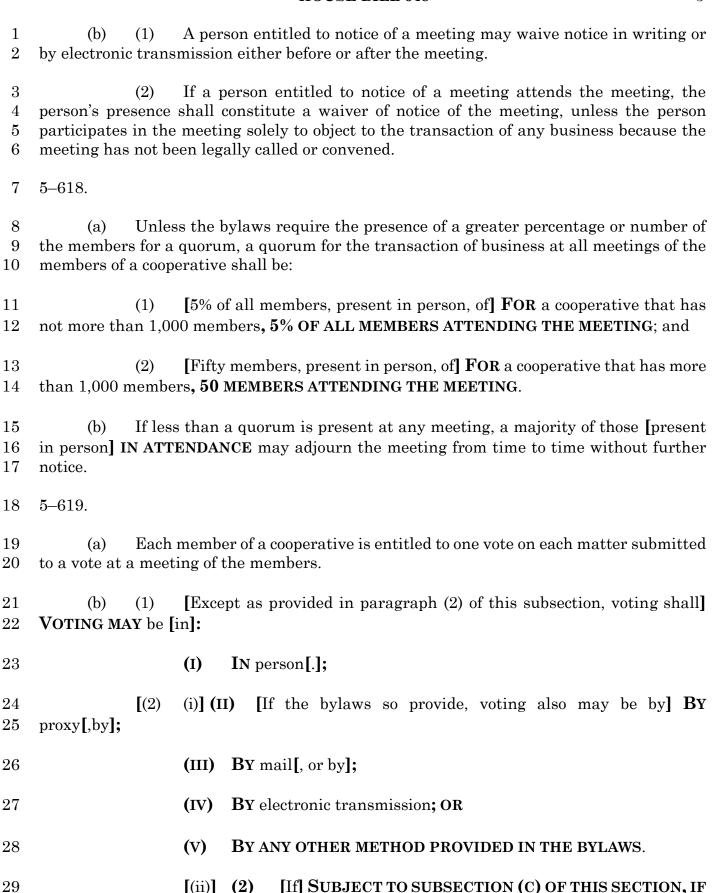
20 5-616.

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- 21 (a) **(1)** An annual meeting of the members of a cooperative shall be held at the 22 time and place provided in the bylaws.
  - (2) AN ANNUAL MEETING MAY BE HELD:



1		<b>(</b> I <b>)</b>	IN PERSON;
2		(II)	VIRTUALLY; OR
3 4	ATTENDANCE.	(III)	WITH A COMBINATION OF IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL
5	(b) A spe	ecial m	eeting of the members of a cooperative may be [called]:
6	(1)	CALI	LED by:
7	[(1)]	(I)	The chairman;
8	[(2)]	(II)	A majority of the board of directors; or
9	[(3)]	(III)	Not less than 10% of the members; AND
10	(2)	HEL	D:
11		<b>(</b> I <b>)</b>	In person;
12		(II)	VIRTUALLY; OR
13 14	ATTENDANCE.	(III)	WITH A COMBINATION OF IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL
15	5–617.		
16 17 18		ll be m	ot as otherwise provided in this subtitle, notice of each meeting of ailed or provided by electronic transmission to each member not e than 90 days before the date of the meeting.
19	(2)	The r	notice shall state:
20 21 22	WITH A COMBINA of the meeting; [a	_	[The] FOR A MEETING THAT WILL BE HELD IN PERSON OR DF IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE, THE time and place
23 24 25			FOR A MEETING THAT WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY OR WITH A PERSON AND VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE, THE TIME OF AND TENDING THE MEETING; AND
26 27	the meeting.	[(ii)]	(III) [If the meeting is] FOR a special meeting, the purpose of



the bylaws provide for voting by [proxy, by mail, or by electronic transmission,] A METHOD

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- OTHER THAN IN PERSON, they also shall establish the conditions under which voting [by proxy, by mail, or by electronic transmission] is allowed.
- 3 (c) A person may not vote by proxy for more than three members at any meeting 4 of the members.
- 5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  $6\,$   $\,$  1, 2021.