

SENATE BILL 525

G1

1lr1710

By: **Senator McCray**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2021

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Baltimore City – Centralized Booking Facility – Voting Information and Early**
3 **Voting Polling Place**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Baltimore City centralized booking facility to disseminate
5 certain written information and instructions directly to each eligible voter; requiring
6 the State Board of Elections and the local board of elections for Baltimore City to
7 provide the Baltimore City centralized booking facility with certain written
8 materials and certain advice and guidance; requiring the local board of elections for
9 Baltimore City, in collaboration with the State Board and the Department of Public
10 Safety and Correctional Services, to establish an early voting polling place at the
11 Baltimore City centralized booking facility; requiring that the early voting polling
12 place be open on certain days and for certain hours, be for the use of eligible voters
13 and closed to the public, and be in addition to certain early voting centers; requiring
14 the State Board to adopt certain regulations and guidelines for the administration
15 of early voting at the early voting polling place; requiring that the regulations and
16 guidelines provide that certain provisions of law that concern voting on election day
17 apply to early voting at the early voting polling place to the extent appropriate;
18 requiring the State Board, the local board of elections for Baltimore City, and the
19 Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services jointly to submit a certain
20 plan to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date;
21 defining certain terms; and generally relating to the dissemination of voting
22 information and an early voting polling place at the Baltimore City centralized
23 booking facility.

24 BY adding to

25 Article – Correctional Services

26 Section 2–501 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 5. Dissemination of Voter
27 Information”

28 Annotated Code of Maryland

29 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
2 Article – Election Law
3 Section 3–102
4 Annotated Code of Maryland
5 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

6 BY adding to
7 Article – Election Law
8 Section 10–301.2
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Correctional Services**

14 **SUBTITLE 5. DISSEMINATION OF VOTER INFORMATION.**

15 **2–501.**

16 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
17 INDICATED.

18 (2) “BALTIMORE CITY CENTRALIZED BOOKING FACILITY” MEANS
19 THE CENTRALIZED BOOKING FACILITY IN BALTIMORE CITY THAT IS OPERATED BY
20 THE DIVISION OF PRETRIAL DETENTION AND SERVICES IN THE DEPARTMENT.

21 (3) “ELIGIBLE VOTER” MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO:

22 (I) IS INCARCERATED AT THE BALTIMORE CITY CENTRALIZED
23 BOOKING FACILITY; AND

24 (II) HAS THE RIGHT TO VOTE UNDER STATE LAW.

25 (B) THE BALTIMORE CITY CENTRALIZED BOOKING FACILITY SHALL:

26 (1) DISSEMINATE WRITTEN INFORMATION DIRECTLY TO EACH
27 ELIGIBLE VOTER ON ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS TO REGISTER TO VOTE AND
28 VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS AT LEAST 30 DAYS BEFORE THE DEADLINE TO
29 REGISTER TO VOTE BEFORE EACH ELECTION; AND

30 (2) DISSEMINATE WRITTEN INSTRUCTIONS DIRECTLY TO EACH
31 ELIGIBLE VOTER ON EARLY VOTING AT THE BALTIMORE CITY CENTRALIZED
32 BOOKING FACILITY IN A TIMELY MANNER BEFORE EACH ELECTION.

1 (3) has been convicted of buying or selling votes.

2 **10-301.2.**

3 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
4 INDICATED.

5 (2) "BALTIMORE CITY CENTRALIZED BOOKING FACILITY" MEANS
6 THE CENTRALIZED BOOKING FACILITY IN BALTIMORE CITY THAT IS OPERATED BY
7 THE DIVISION OF PRETRIAL DETENTION AND SERVICES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF
8 PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES.

9 (3) "EARLY VOTING POLLING PLACE" MEANS A LOCATION AT THE
10 BALTIMORE CITY CENTRALIZED BOOKING FACILITY WHERE ELIGIBLE VOTERS MAY
11 REGISTER AND VOTE IN PERSON DURING EARLY VOTING.

12 (4) "ELIGIBLE VOTER" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO:

13 (I) IS INCARCERATED AT THE BALTIMORE CITY CENTRALIZED
14 BOOKING FACILITY; AND

15 (II) HAS THE RIGHT TO VOTE UNDER STATE LAW.

16 (B) (1) THE LOCAL BOARD OF ELECTIONS FOR BALTIMORE CITY, IN
17 COLLABORATION WITH THE STATE BOARD AND THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
18 SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, SHALL ESTABLISH AN EARLY VOTING
19 POLLING PLACE AT THE BALTIMORE CITY CENTRALIZED BOOKING FACILITY.

20 (2) THE EARLY VOTING POLLING PLACE AT THE BALTIMORE CITY
21 CENTRALIZED BOOKING FACILITY SHALL BE:

22 (I) OPEN ON THE SAME DAYS AND FOR THE SAME HOURS AS AN
23 EARLY VOTING CENTER UNDER § 10-301.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE;

24 (II) FOR THE USE OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS;

25 (III) CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC; AND

26 (IV) IN ADDITION TO THE EARLY VOTING CENTERS REQUIRED
27 UNDER § 10-301.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

28 (C) (1) THE STATE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS AND
29 GUIDELINES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION FOR THE
30 ADMINISTRATION OF EARLY VOTING AT THE EARLY VOTING POLLING PLACE FOR

1 THE BALTIMORE CITY CENTRALIZED BOOKING FACILITY.

2 (2) THE REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES SHALL PROVIDE THAT THE
3 PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE THAT CONCERN VOTING ON ELECTION DAY SHALL
4 APPLY TO EARLY VOTING AT THE EARLY VOTING POLLING PLACE FOR THE
5 BALTIMORE CITY CENTRALIZED BOOKING FACILITY TO THE EXTENT THOSE
6 PROVISIONS ARE APPROPRIATE.

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before December 1,
8 2021, the State Board of Elections, the local board of elections for Baltimore City, and the
9 Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services jointly shall submit to the Senate
10 Budget and Taxation Committee and the House Appropriations Committee, in accordance
11 with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, a plan for the implementation of an early
12 voting polling place for eligible voters at the centralized booking facility in Baltimore City.

13 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
14 October 1, 2021.