

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2024 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 164
Ways and Means

(Delegate R. Long)

**Election Law - Voter Registration List - Absentee Voters (Absentee Ballot
Transparency Act of 2024)**

This emergency bill requires the State Board of Elections (SBE) or a local board of elections, on request of a candidate, to provide the candidate with a list of registered voters who have requested an absentee ballot for an upcoming election. The list of registered voters must include the email address and telephone number of each voter on the list, if the information is available.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill is not expected to materially affect State finances.

Local Effect: The bill is not expected to materially affect local government finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A copy of a list of registered voters must be provided to a Maryland registered voter who submits a written application and a statement, signed under oath, that the list is not intended to be used for commercial solicitation or any other purpose not related to the electoral process. SBE must adopt regulations, in consultation with the local boards of elections, which establish specified procedures and requirements to govern the process of providing a copy of a list of registered voters to a Maryland voter.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has been introduced within the last three years. See HB 943 of 2023.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Baltimore City; Kent, Montgomery, Washington, and Worcester counties; Maryland State Board of Elections; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 24, 2024
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