

## HB 627 – Delegate M. Jackson

Courts- Prosecution for Election Law Violations- Limitations

## **Purpose:**

To increase the statute of limitations on election law violations from 3 years to 5 years.

## **Comments:**

The State Board of Elections supports the proposed legislation.

The proposed legislation increases the statute of limitations on election law violations from 3 years to 5 years. This increase allows for greater enforcement for the State Board and the Office of the State Prosecutor. Furthermore, the increase brings conflicting enforcement provisions in line. Election Law Article §13-332 prohibits an individual from becoming a candidate if the individual has failed to file a campaign finance report in the last 5 years. However, the State Prosecutor can only seek enforcement on the last 3 years. As result, the State Board does not have an enforcement vehicle for the other 2 years.

Contacts: Jared DeMarinis, Director, Candidacy and Campaign Finance 410-269-2853 or jared.demarinis@maryland.gov

## LINDA H. LAMONE, ADMINISTRATOR STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

W & M 2/11/2020