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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
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SB645: Changing Primary Date
House Ways & Means Committee
Tuesday, March 25, 2025 1:00 PM

The 2026 Gubernatorial Primary Election is currently scheduled for Tuesday, June 30. Early Voting would be Thursday, June 18 through Thursday, June 25. Unfortunately, these dates cover Juneteenth (Friday, June 19) and Father's Day (Sunday, June 20). It may also conflict with public school renovations, reducing the availability of polling places.

[SB645](#) would change the date of the Primary Election during Gubernatorial Election years from the **last** Tuesday in June to the **fourth** Tuesday. In some cases, this would not result in a change. In years when June has five Tuesdays, however, the election would be held one week earlier.

Moving to an earlier date helps Local Boards of Elections recruit election judges and student volunteers more easily for both Early Voting and Election Day, while also likely boosting voter turnout. Early Voting Centers will also be more readily available before Department of Recreation summer camps start.

This bill and its cross-file have each passed their chamber of origin.

I urge a favorable report on SB645.