

# HOUSE BILL 142

G1  
HB 926/23 – W&M

EMERGENCY BILL  
(PRE-FILED)

4lr1251

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By: **Delegate R. Long**

Requested: October 30, 2023

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2024

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Polling Places – Establishing Voter Identity**  
3 **(Voter Privacy Act of 2024)**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing a voter to establish the voter’s identity at the request of an  
5 election judge at a polling place by presenting certain proof of identity; and generally  
6 relating to establishing a voter’s identity at a polling place.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article – Election Law  
9 Section 10–310(a)  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Election Law**

15 10–310.

16 (a) For each individual who seeks to vote, an election judge, in accordance with  
17 instructions provided by the local board, shall:

18 (1) locate the individual’s name in the election register and locate the  
19 preprinted voting authority card and then authorize the individual to vote a regular ballot;

20 (2) (i) if the individual’s name is not found on the election register,  
21 search the inactive list and if the name is found, authorize the individual to vote a regular  
22 ballot; or

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) if the individual's name is not on the inactive list, refer the  
2 individual for provisional ballot voting under § 9–404 of this article;

3 (3) establish the identity of the voter by requesting the voter to **EITHER:**

4 (I) state the month and day of the voter's birth and comparing the  
5 response to the information listed in the election register; **OR**

6 (II) **PRESENT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING FORMS OF**  
7 **IDENTIFICATION:**

8 1. **THE VOTER'S VOTER REGISTRATION CARD;**

9 2. **THE VOTER'S VALID MARYLAND DRIVER'S LICENSE;**

10 **OR**

11 3. **ANY IDENTIFICATION CARD THAT CONTAINS A**  
12 **PHOTOGRAPH OF THE VOTER AND IS ISSUED TO THE VOTER BY A POLITICAL**  
13 **SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE, THE STATE, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, OR ANY UNIT**  
14 **OF A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE, THE STATE, OR THE FEDERAL**  
15 **GOVERNMENT;**

16 (4) (i) except if a voter's personal information has been deemed  
17 confidential by the local board, verify the address of the voter's residence; or

18 (ii) conduct an alternative verification as established by the State  
19 Board, if the voter's personal information has been deemed confidential by the local board;

20 (5) if any changes to the voting authority card are indicated by a voter,  
21 make the appropriate changes in information on the card or other appropriate form; and

22 (6) have the voter sign the voting authority card and either issue the voter  
23 a ballot or send the voter to a machine to vote.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency  
25 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has  
26 been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to  
27 each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is  
28 enacted.