
By: Delegate Getty

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 1996

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law - Identification of Voters**

3 FOR the purpose of altering requirements of the Election Code relating to the
4 identification of voters at the polling place; and generally relating to polling place
5 procedures.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article 33 - Election Code
8 Section 15-4(a)
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (1993 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

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

13 **Article 33 - Election Code**

14 15-4.

15 (a) (1) A registered voter offering to vote at any election, before being
16 permitted to vote, shall [identify himself by signing a voting authority card and giving any
17 change of address or name in the presence of the judges which shall be entered on the
18 voting authority card or on a change of address or name form by the voter. When
19 electronically reproduced voter authority cards are used, the voter shall enter his date of
20 birth in the spaces provided, if such information is not preprinted. The applicant shall
21 state the month and day of the applicant's birth, or the applicant's age, which shall be
22 compared with the listed voter registration information, or the applicant shall identify
23 himself by such other means as are referred to in the listed information] PRESENT TO AN
24 ELECTION JUDGE:

25 (I) A DRIVER'S LICENSE, IDENTIFICATION CARD ISSUED BY THE
26 MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION, OR VOTER IDENTIFICATION CARD; OR

27 (II) IF THE VOTER CANNOT PROVIDE A FORM OF IDENTIFICATION
28 SPECIFIED IN ITEM (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, ANY OTHER FORM OF IDENTIFICATION
29 THAT IS ISSUED BY A GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY AND THAT CONTAINS THE VOTER'S
30 NAME, ADDRESS, AND DATE OF BIRTH.

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1 (2) IF THE VOTER DOES NOT HAVE ANY FORM OF IDENTIFICATION
2 DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE ELECTION JUDGE SHALL
3 ASK THE VOTER TO STATE HIS OR HER CURRENT ADDRESS AND DAY AND MONTH
4 OF BIRTH.

5 (3) If, upon comparison of the information, it is found that the applicant is
6 entitled to vote, [then] THE VOTER SHALL SIGN THE APPROPRIATE VOTER
7 AUTHORITY CARD AND the judge having charge of the precinct register shall approve
8 the voting authority card and write his initials thereon. The number of voting authority
9 cards furnished to the judges shall exceed by ten percent the number of registered voters
10 in the precinct. Each voting authority card shall be numbered and dated, and they shall be
11 handed to the applicants in numerical order, as these applicants appear and offer to vote.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
13 October 1, 1996.