
By: Senators Teitelbaum and Sfikas

Introduced and read first time: January 12, 1996

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Laws - Judges of Election - Declines**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the boards of supervisors of elections to appoint as
4 election judges a certain number of registered voters who decline to affiliate with
5 any political party; specifying the circumstances under which such judges may be
6 appointed; specifying that a board may not appoint as chief judge an individual who
7 declines to affiliate with any political party; defining a certain term; and generally
8 relating to the appointment of election judges.

9 BY adding to

10 Article 33 - Election Code
11 Section 1-1(a)(5B)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (1993 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

15 Article 33 - Election Code
16 Section 1-1(a)(10)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (1993 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

19 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

20 Article 33 - Election Code
21 Section 2-7(a)
22 Annotated Code of Maryland
23 (1993 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

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

26 **Article 33 - Election Code**

27 1-1.

28 (a) As used in this article the following terms shall have the meanings indicated
29 unless a contrary meaning is clearly intended from the context in which the term appears:
21 due each renter[]; and

2

1 (5B) "DECLINE" MEANS ANY VOTER WHO HAS DECLINED TO AFFILIATE
2 WITH ANY POLITICAL PARTY.

3 (10) "Judge" means any person designated as a judge of election and shall
4 include book judges and machine attendants.

5 2-7.

6 (a) (1) Each board biennially shall appoint for each precinct, at least four [(4)]
7 judges. [An] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AN
8 equal number of such judges shall be selected from the majority party and the principal
9 minority party in the State; and the board in making any such appointments shall
10 designate the persons intended by it to represent each such political party. The board may
11 require the attendance of these persons before it for examination with respect to their
12 qualifications.

13 (2) IF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF JUDGES FOR A PRECINCT IS EIGHT OR
14 MORE, THEN UP TO 25% OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF JUDGES APPOINTED FOR THE
15 PRECINCT MAY BE DECLINES. THE BOARD MAY NOT APPOINT A DECLINE TO THE
16 POSITION OF CHIEF JUDGE.

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