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**By: Senator Stoltzfus**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 1997

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law - Electronically Tabulated Ballots**

3 FOR the purpose of specifying that a voting system for which ballots are electronically  
4 tabulated at the polling place shall offer the voter the option of indicating a  
5 preference for "None of the Above" in the election for any office.

6 BY adding to

7 Article 33 - Election Code

8 Section 16B-5

9 Annotated Code of Maryland

10 (1993 Replacement Volume and 1996 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 16B-5.

15 (A) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY TO A VOTING SYSTEM IN WHICH BALLOTS  
16 ARE ELECTRONICALLY TABULATED AT THE POLLING PLACE.

17 (B) A SYSTEM CERTIFIED BY THE STATE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD OF  
18 ELECTION LAWS SHALL REQUIRE THAT THE BALLOT BE PRINTED IN A MANNER  
19 THAT ALLOWS THE VOTER TO INDICATE A PREFERENCE FOR "NONE OF THE ABOVE"  
20 IN THE ELECTION FOR ANY OFFICE.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect

22 July 1, 1997.