

BY: Commerce and Government Matters Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 645

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 4, strike “expanding” and substitute “altering”; in line 7, after “election;” insert “providing for the termination of certain provisions of this Act; providing for the effective date for certain provisions of this Act;”; and after line 13, insert:

“BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Election Law

Section 8-102

Annotated Code of Maryland

(As enacted by Chapter ____ (S.B. 1) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2002)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, in line 6, strike the first “the” and substitute “each”; in the same line, strike “each” and substitute “one or more”; and in the same line, strike “voter” and substitute “voters”.

On page 2, in line 13, strike the first “the” and substitute “EACH”; in the same line, strike “each” and substitute “ONE OR MORE”; in the same line, strike “voter” and substitute “VOTERS”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 2, strike beginning with “this” in line 27 down through “2002.” in line 28 and substitute “the Laws of Maryland read as follows:”

Article - Election Law

8-102.

(a) Except as required under subsection (d) of this section, a local board shall provide

(Over)

notice of each election in its county to the registered voters of the county by either:

(1) Specimen ballot mailed at least 1 week before the election; or

(2) Publication or dissemination by mass communication during the calendar week preceding the election.

(b) The notice shall include:

(1) The time and place of the election; and

(2) The offices, candidate names, and questions contained on the ballot.

(c) (1) If a local board provides notice by mailing specimen ballots, a specimen ballot shall be mailed to all registered voters in the county who are eligible to vote in the election.

(2) The specimen ballot shall be a facsimile of the ballot that the voter is entitled to vote in the election.

(d) (1) In Prince George's County for BOTH THE PRIMARY AND the general election, the Board shall[:

(i) Provide] PROVIDE notice by mailing specimen ballots[; and].

[(ii)] (2) [Mail] FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION, THE BOARD SHALL MAIL A SPECIMEN BALLOT TO EACH REGISTERED VOTER IN THE COUNTY.

(3) FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION, THE BOARD SHALL MAIL a specimen ballot to [the] EACH household of [each] ONE OR MORE registered [voter] VOTERS in the County.

[(2)] (4) The costs for mailing specimen ballots in Prince George's County shall be included in the County's annual budget appropriation to the local board.

(e) (1) Unless a local board mails a specimen ballot to its registered voters in accordance with subsection (c) or (d) of this section, the local board shall give notice of the election by newspaper publication or other means of mass communication.

(2) The notice of election under this subsection shall be arranged, if practicable, in the same order and form as the ballot.

(3) (i) If newspaper publication is used in a county, the notice shall be advertised in at least two newspapers of general circulation that are published in the county.

(ii) In a county in which only one newspaper is published, the notice shall be published in that newspaper.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 2 of this Act shall take effect on the taking effect of Chapter _____ (S.B. 1) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2002. If Section 2 of this Act takes effect, Section 1 of this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to the provisions of Section 3 of this Act, this Act shall take effect June 1, 2002.” .