
By: **Prince George's County Delegation**
Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2002
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 18, 2002

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Prince George's County - Specimen Ballots**
3 **PG 405-02**

4 FOR the purpose of ~~expanding~~ altering certain requirements for the distribution of
5 specimen ballots in Prince George's County by requiring the mailing of a
6 specimen ballot to ~~the~~ each household of ~~each~~ one or more registered ~~voter~~
7 voters in the County before a primary election and to each registered voter in
8 the County before the general election; providing for the termination of certain
9 provisions of this Act; providing for the effective date for certain provisions of
10 this Act; and generally relating to specimen ballots in Prince George's County.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article 33 - Election Code
13 Section 8-102
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (1997 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
17 Article - Election Law
18 Section 8-102
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (As enacted by Chapter _____ (S.B. 1) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2002)

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

1

Article 33 - Election Code

2 8-102.

3 (a) Except as required under subsection (d) of this section, a local board shall
4 provide notice of each election in its county to the registered voters of the county by
5 either:

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

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

9 (b) The notice shall include:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

25 [(2)] (4) The costs for mailing specimen ballots in Prince George's
26 County shall be included in the County's annual budget appropriation to the local
27 board.

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

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

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

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

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That ~~this Act shall take~~
 7 ~~effect October 1, 2002.~~ the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

8 **Article - Election Law**

9 8-102.

10 (a) Except as required under subsection (d) of this section, a local board shall
 11 provide notice of each election in its county to the registered voters of the county by
 12 either:

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

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

16 (b) The notice shall include:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

32 [(2)] (4) The costs for mailing specimen ballots in Prince George's
 33 County shall be included in the County's annual budget appropriation to the local
 34 board.

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

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

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

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

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

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