
By: **Chairman, Commerce and Government Matters Committee**
(Departmental - Elections, State Board of)

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2002
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Elections - Protection of Data**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person who obtains a copy of a voter registration list
4 from an election office from selling or distributing the list for profit; providing
5 penalties for certain violations; providing for the effective date for certain
6 provisions of this Act; providing for the termination of certain provisions of this
7 Act; and generally relating to election related data.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article 33 - Election Code
10 Section 3-507
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1997 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

13 BY adding to
14 Article 33 - Election Code
15 Section 16-102
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (1997 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
19 Article - Election Law
20 Section 3-507
21 Annotated Code of Maryland
22 (As enacted by Chapter ____ (S.B. 1) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2002)

23 BY adding to
24 Article - Election Law
25 Section 16-102
26 Annotated Code of Maryland
27 (As enacted by Chapter ____ (S.B. 1) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2002)

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

3 **Article 33 - Election Code**

4 3-507.

5 (a) A copy of a voter registration list shall be provided to a Maryland
6 registered voter upon receipt of:

7 (1) A written application; and

8 (2) A statement, signed under oath, that the list is not intended to be
9 used for purposes of:

10 (i) Commercial solicitation; [or]

11 (ii) SALE OR DISTRIBUTION FOR PROFIT FOR ANY PURPOSE; OR

12 (III) Any other purpose not related to the electoral process.

13 (b) The State Board shall adopt regulations, in consultation with the local
14 boards, specifying:

15 (1) When registration lists shall be provided;

16 (2) Any authorization to be required for providing registration lists;

17 (3) The fee for providing registration lists;

18 (4) The information to be included;

19 (5) The format of the information; and

20 (6) The medium or media on which the information shall be supplied.

21 (c) [Any individual who knowingly allows a registration list under his or her
22 control to be used for commercial solicitation or any other purpose not related to the
23 electoral process is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished under the
24 provisions of Title 16 of this article.] A PERSON MAY NOT KNOWINGLY USE OR ALLOW
25 THE USE OF A VOTER REGISTRATION LIST UNDER THE PERSON'S CONTROL FOR ANY
26 PURPOSE DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (A)(2) OF THIS SECTION.

27 16-102.

28 A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THE PROVISIONS OF § 3-507 OF THIS ARTICLE IS
29 GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND, ON CONVICTION, SHALL BE SUBJECT TO A FINE
30 NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000.

31 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland
32 read as follows:

1 **Article - Election Law**

2 3-507.

3 (a) A copy of a voter registration list shall be provided to a Maryland
4 registered voter upon receipt of:

5 (1) A written application; and

6 (2) A statement, signed under oath, that the list is not intended to be
7 used for purposes of:

8 (i) Commercial solicitation; [or]

9 (ii) SALE OR DISTRIBUTION FOR PROFIT FOR ANY PURPOSE; OR

10 (III) Any other purpose not related to the electoral process.

11 (b) The State Board shall adopt regulations, in consultation with the local
12 boards, specifying:

13 (1) When registration lists shall be provided;

14 (2) Any authorization to be required for providing registration lists;

15 (3) The fee for providing registration lists;

16 (4) The information to be included;

17 (5) The format of the information; and

18 (6) The medium or media on which the information shall be supplied.

19 (c) [Any individual who knowingly allows a registration list under the
20 individual's control to be used for commercial solicitation or any other purpose not
21 related to the electoral process is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished
22 under the provisions of Title 16 of this article.] A PERSON MAY NOT KNOWINGLY USE
23 OR ALLOW THE USE OF A VOTER REGISTRATION LIST UNDER THE PERSON'S
24 CONTROL FOR ANY PURPOSE DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (A)(2) OF THIS SECTION.

25 16-102.

26 A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THE PROVISIONS OF § 3-507 OF THIS ARTICLE IS
27 GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND, ON CONVICTION, SHALL BE SUBJECT TO A FINE
28 NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000.

29 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 1 of this Act
30 shall take effect July 1, 2002. It shall remain effective until the taking effect of
31 Section 2 of this Act. If Section 2 of this Act takes effect, Section 1 of this Act shall be
32 abrogated and of no further force and effect.

1 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to the
2 provisions of Section 3 of this Act, this Act shall take effect January 1, 2003.