
By: **Delegates Marriott, Benson, Carter, Gutierrez, Holmes, Kaiser, Kirk,
Nathan-Pulliam, Ross, F. Turner, and V. Turner**

Introduced and read first time: February 24, 2003

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law - Criteria of Voter Registration for Felons**

3 FOR the purpose of removing the requirement that certain felons who have been
4 convicted of a certain crime only qualify to be a registered voter if the felon, in
5 connection with a subsequent conviction, has completed the court-ordered
6 sentence imposed for the conviction and at least a certain number of years has
7 elapsed since the completion of the court-ordered sentence; and generally
8 relating to the qualifications of felons to register to vote in the State.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

- 10 Article - Election Law
- 11 Section 3-102
- 12 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 13 (2003 Volume)

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

16 **Article - Election Law**

17 3-102.

18 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, an individual may
19 become registered to vote if the individual:

- 20 (1) is a citizen of the United States;
- 21 (2) is at least 18 years old or will be 18 years old on or before the day of
22 the next succeeding general or special election;
- 23 (3) is a resident of the county as of the day the individual seeks to
24 register; and
- 25 (4) registers pursuant to this title.

1 (b) An individual is not qualified to be a registered voter if the individual:

2 (1) has been convicted of theft or other infamous crime, unless the
3 individual:

4 (i) has been pardoned; or

5 (ii) [1.] in connection with a first conviction, has completed the
6 court-ordered sentence imposed for the conviction, including probation, parole,
7 community service, restitutions, and fines; [or

8 2. in connection with a subsequent conviction, has completed
9 the court-ordered sentence imposed for the conviction, including probation, parole,
10 community service, restitutions, and fines, and at least 3 years have elapsed since the
11 completion of the court-ordered sentence imposed for the conviction, including
12 probation, parole, community service, restitutions, and fines;]

13 (2) is under guardianship for mental disability; or

14 (3) has been convicted of buying or selling votes.

15 (c) Notwithstanding subsection (b) of this section, an individual is not
16 qualified to be a registered voter if the individual has been convicted of a second or
17 subsequent crime of violence, as defined in § 14-101 of the Criminal Law Article.

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
19 effect October 1, 2003.