

HOUSE BILL 329

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2004 Regular Session
4r1081
CF 4r1082

By: **Delegates Marriott, Anderson, Benson, Carter, Dumais, Frush,
Goldwater, Goodwin, Gutierrez, Haynes, Heller, Howard, Jones, Kaiser,
Kelley, Kirk, Lee, McIntosh, Morhaim, Nathan-Pulliam, Oaks, Paige,
Patterson, Proctor, Rosenberg, V. Turner, and Vaughn**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2004

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law - Voter Registration - Felons**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the qualifications for voter registration to allow an
4 individual who has been convicted of a certain crime to qualify to be a registered
5 voter if the individual, in connection with a first or subsequent conviction, has
6 been released from the custody of the Division of Correction or a local
7 correctional facility; repealing the provision requiring an individual who has
8 been convicted of a certain subsequent crime from being qualified to be a
9 registered voter until at least a certain number of years have elapsed; and
10 generally relating to the rights of certain felons to register to vote in the State.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article - Election Law
13 Section 3-102
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2003 Volume and 2003 Supplement)

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

18 **Article - Election Law**

19 3-102.

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

22 (1) is a citizen of the United States;

23 (2) is at least 18 years old or will be 18 years old on or before the day of
24 the next succeeding general or special election;

1 (3) is a resident of the county as of the day the individual seeks to
2 register; and

3 (4) registers pursuant to this title.

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

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

7 (i) has been pardoned; or

8 (ii) [1. in connection with a first conviction, has completed the
9 court-ordered sentence imposed for the conviction, including probation, parole,
10 community service, restitutions, and fines] HAS BEEN RELEASED FROM THE
11 CUSTODY OF THE DIVISION OF CORRECTION OR A LOCAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY;
12 [or

13 2. in connection with a subsequent conviction, has completed
14 the court-ordered sentence imposed for the conviction, including probation, parole,
15 community service, restitutions, and fines, and at least 3 years have elapsed since the
16 completion of the court-ordered sentence imposed for the conviction, including
17 probation, parole, community service, restitutions, and fines;]

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

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

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

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
24 October 1, 2004.