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By: **Delegates Menes and Patterson**  
Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2004  
Assigned to: Ways and Means

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments  
House action: Adopted with floor amendments  
Read second time: March 19, 2004

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Candidates' Residencies - Challenges - Expedited Judicial Review**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing certain registered voters to file a petition with ~~the a~~  
4 certain circuit court ~~that challenges to challenge~~ the residency of certain  
5 candidates; requiring the petition to be filed within a certain period of time;  
6 requiring the circuit court to expedite the judicial review of the petition within a  
7 certain period of time; and generally relating to challenging the residency of a  
8 candidate and expediting the judicial review of that challenge.

9 BY adding to  
10 Article - Election Law  
11 Section 5-305  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2003 Volume and 2003 Supplement)

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 5-305.

18 (A) ~~ANY A~~ REGISTERED VOTER WHO IS A RESIDENT OF THE DISTRICT OR  
19 OTHER GEOGRAPHIC AREA IN WHICH A CANDIDATE IS SEEKING OFFICE MAY FILE A  
20 PETITION WITH THE CIRCUIT COURT ~~THAT CHALLENGES~~ FOR THAT DISTRICT OR  
21 GEOGRAPHIC AREA TO CHALLENGE THE CANDIDATE'S RESIDENCY AS PROVIDED IN §  
22 5-202 OF THIS TITLE.

1 (B) (1) THE PETITION SHALL BE FILED WITHIN 7 DAYS ~~FROM THE DATE THE~~  
2 ~~CANDIDATE'S CERTIFICATE OF CANDIDACY IS FILED UNDER § 5-302 OF THIS~~  
3 ~~SUBTITLE AFTER THE DEADLINE SPECIFIED UNDER § 5-303 OF THIS SUBTITLE FOR~~  
4 ~~THE FILING OF A CERTIFICATE OF CANDIDACY FOR THE OFFICE THAT THE~~  
5 ~~CANDIDATE IS SEEKING.~~

6 (2) JUDICIAL REVIEW OF ANY PETITION THAT IS FILED UNDER  
7 SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE EXPEDITED BY THE CIRCUIT COURT  
8 THAT HEARS THE CAUSE TO THE EXTENT NECESSARY IN CONSIDERATION OF THE  
9 DEADLINES ESTABLISHED BY LAW, AND IN NO CASE, LONGER THAN 7 DAYS FROM  
10 THE DATE THE PETITION IS FILED.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
12 July 1, 2004.