Unofficial Copy G1 2004 Regular Session 4lr2882

By: Delegate Barve

Introduced and read first time: February 20, 2004 Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

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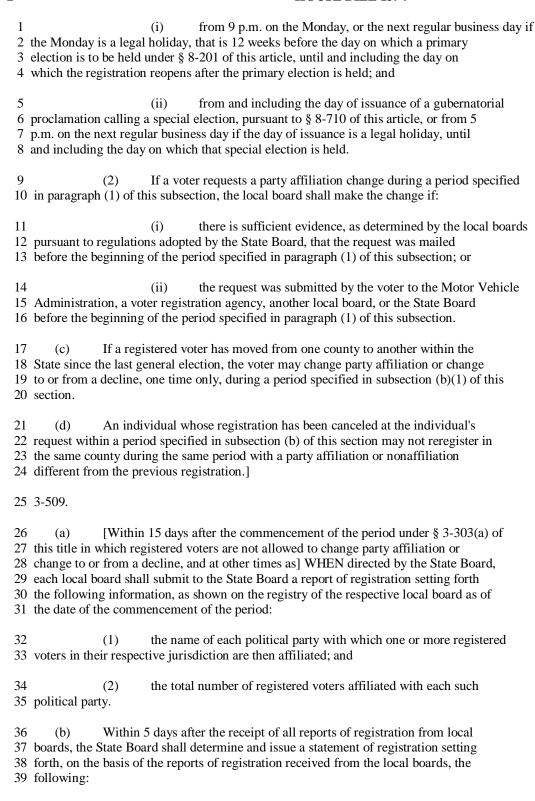
2 Election Law - Change of Party Affiliation - Time Period

- 3 FOR the purpose of altering the period during which a registered voter may change
- 4 the voter's party affiliation; repealing the provision that prohibits a voter,
- 5 subject to certain exceptions, from changing the voter's party affiliation during
- 6 a certain period that begins before a primary until a certain period after the
- 7 primary election; requiring a local board to change, under certain
- 8 circumstances, a voter's party affiliation at any time that registration is open;
- 9 repealing a provision that requires a local board to submit certain information to
- the State Board of Elections within a certain time period; requiring a local board
- 11 to submit a certain voter registration report to the State Board when it is
- directed by the State Board to do so; and generally relating to a voter's change of
- party affiliation.
- 14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 15 Article Election Law
- 16 Section 3-303 and 3-509
- 17 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 18 (2003 Volume and 2003 Supplement)
- 19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
- 20 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

21 Article - Election Law

- 22 3-303.
- 23 [(a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section, a] A local
- 24 board, at the signed request of a registered voter, shall change that voter's party
- 25 affiliation, or change the voter to or from a decline, at any time that registration is
- 26 open.
- 27 [(b) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, party
- 28 affiliation may not be changed:

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- 1 (1) the name of each political party with which one or more registered 2 voters in the State are affiliated;
- 3 (2) the total number of registered voters affiliated with each such 4 political party;
- 5 (3) the total number of registered voters in the State; and
- 6 (4) the percentage of the total number of registered voters in the State
- 7 that are affiliated with each such political party, such percentage to be carried out to 8 two or more decimal places.
- 9 (c) Each board shall provide reports of registration and other registration 10 related activity as may be required by the State.
- 11 (d) The statements of registration shall be retained in the office of the State
- 12 Board for a period of at least 6 years and shall be available for inspection during
- 13 normal working hours by any interested person.
- 14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
- 15 October 1, 2004.