
By: **Delegate C. Davis**

Introduced and read first time: January 18, 2006

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 that crime, has been released from the
6 custody of the Division of Correction or a local correctional facility and, in
7 connection with that crime, is no longer subject to the authority or control of the
8 Division or the local correctional facility; repealing provisions that prohibit an
9 individual who has been convicted of a certain subsequent crime from being
10 qualified to be a registered voter until at least a certain number of years have
11 elapsed; repealing a provision that prohibits an individual convicted of a second
12 or subsequent crime of a certain type from qualifying to be a registered voter;
13 and generally relating to the rights of certain felons to register to vote in the
14 State.

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article - Election Law
17 Section 3-102
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2003 Volume and 2005 Supplement)

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

22 **Article - Election Law**

23 3-102.

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

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

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

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

2 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] THAT conviction, has
9 completed the court-ordered sentence imposed for the conviction, including
10 probation, parole, community service, restitutions, and fines; [or] AND

11 2. [in connection with a subsequent conviction, has
12 completed the court-ordered sentence imposed for the conviction, including
13 probation, parole, community service, restitutions, and fines, and at least 3 years
14 have elapsed since the completion of the court-ordered sentence imposed for the
15 conviction, including probation, parole, community service, restitutions, and fines] IN
16 CONNECTION WITH THAT CONVICTION, IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE AUTHORITY OR
17 CONTROL OF THE DIVISION OF CORRECTION OR A LOCAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY;
18 OR

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

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

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

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
25 October 1, 2006.