
By: **Delegates Ross, Rosenberg, and Patterson**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2006

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law - Polling Places on College Campuses**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a local board of elections to establish, under certain
4 circumstances, a separate precinct for voting on election day to serve individuals
5 associated with certain institutions of higher education; requiring each
6 institution at which a precinct is established to provide certain facilities and
7 services to the local board in connection with voting day activities; and generally
8 relating to the establishment of precincts for voting on college campuses.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article - Election Law
11 Section 2-303(a)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2003 Volume and 2005 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 2-303.

18 (a) (1) [As] SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SECTION, AS it deems it
19 expedient for the convenience of voters, a local board may:

20 [(1)] (I) create and alter the boundaries for precincts in the county;

21 [(2)] (II) designate the location for polling places in any election district,
22 ward, or precinct in the county; and

23 [(3)] (III) combine or abolish precincts.

24 (2) (I) A LOCAL BOARD SHALL ESTABLISH A SEPARATE PRECINCT TO
25 SPECIFICALLY SERVE A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IF
26 THE LOCAL BOARD DETERMINES THAT AT LEAST 500 STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND

1 STAFF WHO ATTEND OR WORK AT THE INSTITUTION ARE REGISTERED VOTERS IN
2 THE PRECINCT IN WHICH THE INSTITUTION IS LOCATED.

3 (II) IF, UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, A POLLING
4 PLACE IS ESTABLISHED AT AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT RECEIVES
5 STATE FUNDS, THAT INSTITUTION SHALL:

6 1. PROVIDE WITHOUT CHARGE TO THE LOCAL BOARD A
7 FACILITY FOR USE AS A POLLING PLACE THAT MEETS ALL APPLICABLE
8 REQUIREMENTS UNDER THIS ARTICLE AND AS ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE BOARD;
9 AND

10 2. PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THE LOCAL BOARD IN
11 RECRUITING ELECTION JUDGES TO STAFF THE POLLING PLACE.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
13 June 1, 2006.