
By: **Delegates Frank and King**

Introduced and read first time: February 16, 2006

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law - Election Judges - Compensation**

3 FOR the purpose of specifying certain minimum amounts of compensation for election
4 judges; providing a certain State-funded subsidy to local boards of elections for
5 the compensation of election judges; specifying that an election judge shall
6 attend a certain training session during each biennial election cycle; requiring
7 the Governor to provide certain funding in the annual budgets for certain fiscal
8 years; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to the
9 compensation and training of election judges.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

11 Article - Election Law

12 Section 10-205 and 10-206

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2003 Volume and 2005 Supplement)

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

17 **Article - Election Law**

18 10-205.

19 (a) (1) A local board [may fix the compensation of election judges within the
20 limits authorized for this purpose by the county's governing body] SHALL
21 COMPENSATE AN ELECTION JUDGE FOR EACH ELECTION DAY ACTUALLY SERVED, IN
22 AN AMOUNT NOT LESS THAN:

23 (I) \$225 PER DAY FOR EACH CHIEF ELECTION JUDGE; AND

24 (II) \$175 PER DAY FOR EACH OTHER ELECTION JUDGE.

25 (2) (I) AFTER EACH GENERAL ELECTION, THE STATE BOARD SHALL
26 TRANSMIT A PAYMENT TO EACH LOCAL BOARD IN THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS:

1 1. \$70 FOR EACH CHIEF ELECTION JUDGE SALARY PAID BY
2 THE LOCAL BOARD DURING THE PRECEDING PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTION;
3 AND

4 2. \$50 FOR EACH OTHER ELECTION JUDGE SALARY PAID BY
5 THE LOCAL BOARD DURING THE PRECEDING PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTION.

6 (II) THE GOVERNOR SHALL PROVIDE IN THE BUDGET OF THE
7 STATE BOARD AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE SUBSIDIES SPECIFIED IN THIS
8 PARAGRAPH.

9 [(b) (1) In Allegany County, the compensation for each day actually served
10 may not be less than:

11 (i) \$100 per day for each chief election judge; and

12 (ii) \$80 per day for every other election judge.

13 (2) In Baltimore City, the compensation for each election day actually
14 served shall be:

15 (i) \$150 per day for each chief election judge; and

16 (ii) \$125 per day for every other election judge.

17 (3) In Baltimore County, the compensation for each election day actually
18 served shall be:

19 (i) \$160 per day for each chief election judge; and

20 (ii) \$125 per day for every other election judge.

21 (4) In Calvert County, the compensation for each election day actually
22 served shall be:

23 (i) \$125 per day for each chief election judge; and

24 (ii) \$100 per day for every other election judge.

25 (5) In Harford County, the compensation for each election day actually
26 served shall be:

27 (i) not less than \$160 per day for each chief election judge; and

28 (ii) not less than \$125 per day for every other election judge.

29 (6) (i) In Prince George's County, the compensation for each election
30 day actually served shall be:

31 1. \$200 per day for two chief election judges; and

1 2. \$125 per day for every other election judge.

2 (ii) 1. In Prince George's County, except as provided under
3 sub-subparagraph 2 of this subparagraph, election judges and alternate election
4 judges shall receive \$25 as compensation for completing the course of instruction
5 required under § 10-206 of this subtitle.

6 2. An election judge or alternate election judge may not
7 receive the compensation authorized under this subparagraph if the election judge
8 refuses to serve on an election day, unless the local board excuses the election judge.

9 (7) (i) In Washington County, the compensation for each election day
10 actually served shall be:

11 1. \$175 per day for each chief election judge, plus a mileage
12 allowance as determined by the Washington County Board; and

13 2. \$150 per day for every other election judge.

14 (ii) In Washington County, a chief election judge or election judge
15 who successfully completes a course of instruction in poll working shall be eligible for
16 additional compensation, if approved by the Washington County Board and provided
17 for in the county budget.]

18 (B) A LOCAL BOARD SHALL COMPENSATE AN ELECTION JUDGE IN THE
19 AMOUNT OF AT LEAST \$20 FOR EACH REQUIRED TRAINING PROGRAM ATTENDED BY
20 THE ELECTION JUDGE IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 10-206 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

21 10-206.

22 (a) In consultation with the local boards, the State Board shall:

23 (1) develop a program of instruction of election judges; and

24 (2) oversee the implementation of the program of instruction.

25 (b) The training materials utilized by the program may include:

26 (1) an instruction manual and other written directives;

27 (2) curriculum for training sessions; and

28 (3) audiovisuals.

29 (c) The State Board shall develop a process for the evaluation of the training
30 program and the performance of the polling place staff in each county.

31 (d) To the extent appropriate, the training program shall be specific to each of
32 the voting systems used in polling places in the State.

1 (e) Each local board shall conduct election judge training based on the
2 program developed by the State Board.

3 (f) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, BEFORE EACH
4 PRIMARY ELECTION each election judge shall participate in the training program
5 provided for in subsection (a) of this section.

6 (2) An election judge who is appointed under emergency circumstances is
7 not required to attend the course of instruction.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

9 (1) The Governor shall include in the annual budget for fiscal year 2009,
10 and for every subsequent fiscal year in which a statewide general election is
11 scheduled, an appropriation for the State Board of Elections in an amount not less
12 than \$1,095,720 to subsidize the salaries of election judges in accordance with §
13 10-205(a)(2) of the State Government Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act.

14 (2) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the amount specified in
15 paragraph (1) of this section be adjusted for each applicable fiscal year as needed to
16 meet the projected amount of subsidy for elections in that fiscal year.

17 (3) If money is not appropriated in the fiscal year 2007 budget to fully
18 subsidize the salaries of election judges in accordance with § 10-205(a)(2) of the State
19 Government Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, this Act may not be construed
20 to apply to the elections that occur in 2006.

21 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
22 July 1, 2006.