

# HOUSE BILL 1198

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By: **Delegates Myers, Bartlett, Bates, Beitzel, Boteler, Frank, George, Haddaway, Kelly, J. King, McConkey, Miller, O'Donnell, Shank, Stull, and Weldon**

Introduced and read first time: February 21, 2007

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Periodic Audit of Statewide Voter Registration List**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Administrator of Elections to cause to be  
4 conducted a certain audit of the statewide voter registration list at certain times  
5 and for certain purposes; making a stylistic change; and generally relating to a  
6 periodic audit of the statewide voter registration list.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article – Election Law  
9 Section 3–101  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2003 Volume and 2006 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Election Law**

15 3–101.

16 (a) There shall be a statewide voter registration list.

17 (b) The statewide voter registration list shall:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1           (1)    be the official voter registration list for the State;
- 2           (2)    contain the name and other information for every legally registered  
3 voter in the State;
- 4           (3)    allow each local board to obtain immediate electronic access to the  
5 information contained in the list;
- 6           (4)    be coordinated with other agency databases in the State;
- 7           (5)    be used to produce precinct registers for use in polling places on  
8 election day; and
- 9           (6)    include voting history information on a current basis for a period  
10 covering at least the 5 preceding years.
- 11         (c)    The State Administrator shall:
- 12           (1)    define, maintain, and administer the statewide voter registration  
13 list;
- 14           (2)    with the local boards, ensure the currency and accuracy of each  
15 individual voter's registration record;
- 16           (3)    instruct the local boards on:
- 17                 (i)    processing voter registration applications and name and  
18 address changes;
- 19                 (ii)   entering voter registration information into the statewide  
20 voter registration list; and
- 21                 (iii) removing from the statewide voter registration list  
22 information about voters who are no longer eligible to be registered voters[.];
- 23           (4)    Subject to relevant federal law and to regulations adopted by the  
24 State Board, establish and conduct a program to identify voters who have changed  
25 their addresses; **AND**
- 26           **(5)    IN COLLABORATION WITH THE LOCAL BOARDS, ON OR**  
27 **BEFORE JULY 1 IN EACH EVEN-NUMBERED YEAR, AND AT ANY OTHER TIME THE**  
28 **STATE ADMINISTRATOR DETERMINES TO BE NECESSARY, CAUSE TO BE**

1 **CONDUCTED AN AUDIT OF THE STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION LIST TO**  
2 **ENSURE THE ACCURACY AND CURRENCY OF THE INDIVIDUAL VOTER RECORDS.**

3 (d) Registration shall be conducted continuously under the supervision of the  
4 State Administrator and in accordance with the provisions of this title, applicable  
5 federal law, and regulations adopted by the State Board.

6 (e) A registered voter:

7 (1) shall remain registered when the voter moves to another county in  
8 the State; and

9 (2) may not be required to register again unless the voter's  
10 registration is canceled in accordance with Subtitle 5 of this title.

11 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect**  
12 **October 1, 2007.**