

# SENATE BILL 78

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By: **Senators Kelley and Rosapepe**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2007

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law - Election Judges - Hiring on a Nonpartisan Basis**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing a limitation that each polling place have an equal  
4 number of election judges from certain political parties; providing that election  
5 judges shall be hired on a nonpartisan basis; providing that minor election  
6 judges may not exceed a certain proportion of adult election judges; and  
7 generally relating to the employment of election judges.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article - Election Law  
10 Section 10-201  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2003 Volume and 2006 Supplement)

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

15 **Article - Election Law**

16 10-201.

17 (a) (1) (i) Except as provided in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph,  
18 each local board shall provide at least four election judges to be the staff for each  
19 polling place.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) In a precinct with fewer than 200 registered voters, the local  
2 board may provide two election judges for that precinct's polling place.

3 (2) An election judge shall be appointed in accordance with the  
4 requirements of § 10-203 of this subtitle.

5 (b) (1) [Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, each]  
6 **EACH** polling place shall [have an equal number of] **HIRE** election judges **ON A**  
7 **NONPARTISAN BASIS, WITHOUT PARTY DESIGNATION OR REGARD TO PARTY**  
8 **AFFILIATION** [from:

9 (i) the majority party; and

10 (ii) the principal minority party].

11 (2) (i) If the total number of election judges for a precinct is six or  
12 more[:

13 1. a local board may provide one or more election judges  
14 who are not registered with either the majority party or principal minority political  
15 party; and

16 2.], a local board may provide one or more election judges  
17 who are minors.

18 (ii) The number of election judges provided under this  
19 paragraph may not exceed [the lesser of:

20 1. the number of election judges who belong to the  
21 majority party; or

22 2. the number of election judges who belong to the  
23 principal minority party] **ONE-THIRD THE NUMBER OF ADULT ELECTION JUDGES.**

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