

# HOUSE BILL 1318

E2, E4, G1

9lr2464

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By: **Delegates Robinson, Cane, Healey, and Walker**

Introduced and read first time: February 16, 2009

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Correctional Facility – Release of Inmate – Notice of Voting Rights**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Commissioner of Correction to issue a certain  
4 document to an inmate before release from a certain State correctional facility  
5 to advise the inmate of the inmate's right to register to vote and to vote; making  
6 a stylistic change; and generally relating to notice of voting rights for an inmate  
7 released from a State correctional facility.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
9 Article – Election Law  
10 Section 3–102  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2003 Volume and 2008 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
14 Article – Correctional Services  
15 Section 9–609  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

18 BY adding to  
19 Article – Correctional Services  
20 Section 9–609.1  
21 Annotated Code of Maryland  
22 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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

25 **Article – Election Law**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 3-102.

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

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

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

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

9 (4) registers pursuant to this title.

10 (b) An individual is not qualified to be a registered voter if the individual:

11 (1) has been convicted of a felony and is actually serving a  
12 court-ordered sentence of imprisonment, including any term of parole or probation, for  
13 the conviction;

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

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

16 **Article - Correctional Services**

17 9-609.

18 (a) Whenever a date of release from confinement in a State correctional  
19 facility is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the inmate shall be released on the  
20 first preceding day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday.

21 (b) The Commissioner **OF CORRECTION** shall adopt regulations establishing  
22 a release plan for inmates upon release from confinement in a State correctional  
23 facility to help identify resources to assist inmates following release, including the  
24 provision of transportation from the facility for an inmate upon release.

25 **9-609.1.**

26 **THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTION SHALL ISSUE A BROCHURE,**  
27 **PAMPHLET, OR OTHER PUBLICATION TO AN INMATE BEFORE RELEASE FROM**  
28 **CONFINEMENT IN A STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY TO ADVISE THE INMATE**  
29 **ABOUT THE VOTING RIGHTS OF INMATES WHO ARE RELEASED FROM**  
30 **CONFINEMENT, INCLUDING INFORMATION ABOUT HOW AN INMATE RELEASED**  
31 **FROM CONFINEMENT MAY REGAIN THE RIGHT TO REGISTER TO VOTE AND TO**  
32 **VOTE.**

1           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
2    October 1, 2009.