

HOUSE BILL 212

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4r1113
CF 4r1514

By: **Delegates Afzali, Cardin, George, and Ivey**

Introduced and read first time: January 16, 2014

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Statewide Voter Registration List – Removal of Deceased**
3 **Voters**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Administrator of Elections to make
5 arrangements with the Social Security Administration to receive quarterly
6 reports of names and residence addresses of certain individuals reported
7 deceased and to obtain the reports within a certain period; requiring a local
8 board of elections to remove a deceased voter from the statewide voter
9 registration list under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the
10 removal of deceased voters from the statewide voter registration list.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – Election Law
13 Section 3–504
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Election Law**

19 3–504.

20 (a) (1) (i) Information from the agencies specified in this paragraph
21 shall be reported to the State Administrator in a format and at times prescribed by the
22 State Board.

23 (ii) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall report
24 the names and residence addresses (if known) of all individuals at least 16 years of age
25 reported deceased within the State since the date of the last report.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (iii) The clerk of the circuit court for each county and the
 2 administrative clerk for each District Court shall report the names and addresses of
 3 all individuals convicted, in the respective court, of a felony since the date of the last
 4 report.

5 (iv) The clerk of the circuit court for each county shall report the
 6 former and present names and residence addresses (if known) of all individuals whose
 7 names have been changed by decree or order of the court since the date of the last
 8 report.

9 (2) The State Administrator shall make arrangements with the clerk
 10 of the United States District Court for the District of Maryland to receive reports of
 11 names and addresses, if available, of individuals convicted of a felony in that court.

12 **(3) THE STATE ADMINISTRATOR SHALL:**

13 **(I) MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE SOCIAL SECURITY**
 14 **ADMINISTRATION TO RECEIVE QUARTERLY REPORTS OF NAMES AND**
 15 **RESIDENCE ADDRESSES OF ALL INDIVIDUALS AT LEAST 16 YEARS OF AGE WHO**
 16 **ARE DEEMED MARYLAND RESIDENTS AND REPORTED DECEASED; AND**

17 **(II) PROMPTLY OBTAIN THE REPORTS AT THE END OF EACH**
 18 **QUARTER.**

19 (b) (1) The State Administrator shall transmit to the appropriate local
 20 board information gathered pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

21 (2) Every agency or instrumentality of any county which acquires or
 22 condemns or razes or causes to be condemned or razed any building used as a
 23 residence within the county shall promptly report this fact and the location of the
 24 building to the local board in the county or city.

25 (3) Registration cancellation information provided by an applicant on
 26 any voter registration application shall be provided to the appropriate local board by
 27 the State Administrator or another local board.

28 (4) A local board may:

29 (i) make arrangements to receive change of address
 30 information from an entity approved by the State Board; and

31 (ii) pay a reasonable fee to the entity for the information.

32 (c) (1) **(I) [Whenever] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF**
 33 **THIS SUBSECTION, WHENEVER** a local board becomes aware of an obituary or any

1 other reliable report of the death of a registered voter, the election director shall mail
2 a notice to the registered voter, as prescribed by the State Board, to verify whether the
3 voter is in fact deceased.

4 **[(2)] (II)** On receipt of a verification of the death of a voter, provided
5 in accordance with the notice mailed under [paragraph (1) of this subsection]
6 **SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH**, the election director may remove the
7 voter from the statewide voter registration list under § 3-501 of this subtitle.

8 **(2) WHENEVER A LOCAL BOARD RECEIVES A SOCIAL SECURITY**
9 **ADMINISTRATION REPORT OBTAINED BY THE STATE ADMINISTRATOR UNDER**
10 **SUBSECTION (A)(3) OF THIS SECTION THAT INCLUDES A REGISTERED VOTER,**
11 **THE ELECTION DIRECTOR SHALL REMOVE THE VOTER FROM THE STATEWIDE**
12 **VOTER REGISTRATION LIST UNDER § 3-501 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
14 June 1, 2014.