

HOUSE BILL 880

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CF SB 96

By: **Delegates Lisanti, Cassilly, McComas, and Reilly**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2015

Assigned to: Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 10, 2015

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Early Voting Centers – Parking**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring ~~each early voting center to have sufficient parking on-site to~~
4 ~~accommodate the maximum number of voters expected to be present at the early~~
5 ~~voting center at one time, to the extent appropriate and practicable, that each early~~
6 voting center have sufficient parking on-site to accommodate voters who are
7 expected to drive to the early voting center; and generally relating to parking at early
8 voting centers.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Election Law
11 Section 10–301.1
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Election Law**

17 10–301.1.

18 (a) Except as provided under Title 9, Subtitle 3 of this article, during any
19 regularly scheduled primary or general election a voter may vote:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (1) in the voter's assigned precinct on election day; or

2 (2) at an early voting center in the voter's county of residence on any early
3 voting day in accordance with this section.

4 (b) (1) Each county shall have at least one early voting center established in
5 the county as prescribed in this subsection.

6 (2) A county with fewer than 125,000 registered voters shall have one early
7 voting center established in the county.

8 (3) A county with more than 125,000 registered voters but fewer than
9 300,000 registered voters shall have three early voting centers established in the county.

10 (4) A county with more than 300,000 registered voters but fewer than
11 450,000 registered voters shall have five early voting centers established in the county.

12 (5) A county with more than 450,000 registered voters shall have eight
13 early voting centers.

14 (6) In addition to the early voting centers required in this subsection, each
15 county may establish one additional early voting center if the State Board, in collaboration
16 with the local board, and the governing body of the county agree to establish an additional
17 early voting center.

18 (c) No later than 6 months before a primary election, the State Board, in
19 collaboration with the local board in each county, shall designate each early voting center
20 in that county.

21 (d) Each early voting center shall be open for voting as follows:

22 (1) beginning the second Thursday before a primary or general election
23 through the Thursday before the election; and

24 (2) during the following hours:

25 (i) in a presidential general election, during the hours between 8
26 a.m. and 8 p.m. each early voting day; and

27 (ii) in all other elections, during the hours between 10 a.m. and 8
28 p.m. each early voting day.

29 (e) Each early voting center shall:

30 (1) satisfy the requirements of § 10–101 of this title; AND

1 (2) ~~HAVE SUFFICIENT PARKING ON-SITE TO ACCOMMODATE THE~~
2 ~~MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VOTERS EXPECTED TO BE PRESENT AT THE EARLY VOTING~~
3 ~~CENTER AT ONE TIME TO THE EXTENT APPROPRIATE AND PRACTICABLE, HAVE~~
4 SUFFICIENT PARKING ON-SITE TO ACCOMMODATE VOTERS WHO ARE EXPECTED TO
5 DRIVE TO THE EARLY VOTING CENTER.

6 (f) Beginning 30 days prior to each early voting period the State Board and each
7 local board shall undertake steps to inform the public about early voting and the location
8 of early voting centers in each county, including:

9 (1) a series of public service media announcements;

10 (2) mailings to all registered voters in each county; and

11 (3) other measures as appropriate.

12 (g) Except as expressly provided in this section, any provision of this article that
13 applies to voting on election day also applies to early voting.

14 (h) The State Board shall adopt regulations and guidelines in accordance with the
15 requirements of this section for the conduct of early voting.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
17 1, 2015.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.