

HOUSE BILL 619

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7lr2420

By: **Delegates Hornberger, Arentz, and W. Miller**

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2017

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Campaign Signs at Polling Places**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the time period during which campaign signs shall be allowed
4 on the premises of polling places for an election; and generally relating to campaign
5 signs at polling places during an election.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

7 Article – Election Law

8 Section 10–101(a)

9 Annotated Code of Maryland

10 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Election Law**

14 10–101.

15 (a) (1) Each local board shall designate a polling place that meets the
16 requirements of this subsection for each precinct in the county as established by the local
17 board in accordance with Title 2 of this article.

18 (2) Each polling place shall:

19 (i) provide an environment that is suitable to the proper conduct of
20 an election;

21 (ii) be located as conveniently as practicable for the majority of
22 registered voters assigned to that polling place;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



3 (iv) be in the precinct that it serves unless no suitable location for a
4 polling place can be found within that precinct, in which case the board may establish the
5 polling place in an adjacent precinct; and

6 (v) whenever practicable, be selected and arranged to avoid
7 architectural and other barriers that impede access or voting by elderly and physically
8 disabled voters.

21 B. [7] 4 p.m. the day before an early voting period begins
22 under § 10–301.1 of this title until 8 a.m. the day after the early voting period ends.

23 (4) (i) If suitable space in a public building is not available, a local board
24 may pay a reasonable fee for the use of space in a privately owned building.

25 (ii) A polling place may not be located in a privately owned building
26 unless the owner of the building agrees to:

27 1. allow electioneering on the premises up to the
28 electioneering boundary established under § 16–206(b) of this article; and

B. [7] 4 p.m. the day before an early voting period begins under § 10-301.1 of this title until 8 a.m. the day after the early voting period ends.

(iii) Except as provided in subparagraphs (iv) and (v) of this paragraph, an election may not be held in any building or part of any building used or occupied by an establishment that holds an alcoholic beverages license.

(iv) An election may be held in a building that is owned and occupied by an establishment that holds an alcoholic beverages license if:

3. where applicable, all ballots are removed from the polling
place by the local board immediately following the election.

15 (v) An early voting center may be located in a building that is
16 partially occupied by an establishment that holds an alcoholic beverages license if:

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
27 October 1, 2017.