

# HOUSE BILL 1427

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By: **Delegate Conway**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2018

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Use of Ballot Marking Devices**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the election judges to make a reasonable effort to ensure that  
4 certain voters at a polling place use a ballot marking device that is accessible to  
5 voters with disabilities; and generally relating to the use of ballot marking devices.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
7 Article – Election Law  
8 Section 10–310(a)  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article – Election Law  
13 Section 10–310(b)  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Election Law**

19 10–310.

20 (a) For each individual who seeks to vote, an election judge, in accordance with  
21 instructions provided by the local board, shall:

22 (1) locate the individual's name in the election register and locate the  
23 preprinted voting authority card and then authorize the individual to vote a regular ballot;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1                   (2)   (i)    if the individual's name is not found on the election register,  
2 search the inactive list and if the name is found, authorize the individual to vote a regular  
3 ballot; or

4                   (ii)   if the individual's name is not on the inactive list, refer the  
5 individual for provisional ballot voting under § 9-404 of this article;

6                   (3)   establish the identity of the voter by requesting the voter to state the  
7 month and day of the voter's birth and comparing the response to the information listed in  
8 the election register;

9                   (4)   (i)    except if a voter's personal information has been deemed  
10 confidential by the local board, verify the address of the voter's residence; or

11                   (ii)   conduct an alternative verification as established by the State  
12 Board, if the voter's personal information has been deemed confidential by the local board;

13                   (5)   if any changes to the voting authority card are indicated by a voter,  
14 make the appropriate changes in information on the card or other appropriate form; and

15                   (6)   have the voter sign the voting authority card and either issue the voter  
16 a ballot or send the voter to a machine to vote.

17           (b)   **(1)**   On the completion of the procedures set forth in subsection (a) of this  
18 section, a voter may vote in accordance with the procedures appropriate to the voting  
19 system used in the polling place.

20                   **(2)   THE ELECTION JUDGES SHALL MAKE A REASONABLE EFFORT TO**  
21 **ENSURE THAT EVERY TENTH VOTER AT A POLLING PLACE USES A BALLOT MARKING**  
22 **DEVICE THAT IS ACCESSIBLE TO VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES.**

23           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
24 1, 2018.