

# HOUSE BILL 286

G1

(9lr0736)

## ENROLLED BILL

— Ways and Means/Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs —

Introduced by **Delegates Reznik, Bagnall, Brooks, Cardin, Charkoudian, Ebersole, Hettleman, Jones, R. Lewis, Lierman, Love, Luedtke, McIntosh, Moon, Palakovich Carr, Qi, Sample-Hughes, Solomon, Stewart, Terrasa, ~~and Valderrama~~, Valderrama, Smith, Guyton, Wilkins, Patterson, Kaiser, Washington, Mosby, Turner, Ivey, Feldmark, and D. Barnes**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock, \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker.

### CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

### 2 **Election Law – Registration and Voting at Precinct Polling Places**

3 FOR the purpose of providing an exception to the voter registration deadline to allow an  
4 individual to appear at a precinct polling place in the individual’s county of residence  
5 and apply to register to vote ~~or change the voter’s address on an existing voter~~  
6 ~~registration~~; requiring an applicant for voter registration on election day to provide  
7 proof of residency; specifying the acceptable forms of proof of residency; requiring an  
8 election judge to determine whether an applicant for voter registration resides in the  
9 precinct and is qualified to become a registered voter; requiring an election judge to  
10 process certain applicants for voter registration in a certain manner; requiring ~~local~~  
11 ~~boards of elections~~ *the State Board of Elections* to take appropriate measures to notify

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#### 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.

*Italics* indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 potential registrants of the correct precinct polling place for the potential registrants'  
 2 residence addresses *except under certain circumstances*; requiring an election judge  
 3 to notify certain individuals of the correct precinct for the voter's residence address;  
 4 ~~requiring an election judge to determine whether a voter who applies to change the~~  
 5 ~~voter's address resides in the precinct where the voter seeks to vote; requiring an~~  
 6 ~~election judge to process certain voters who apply to change their address in a certain~~  
 7 ~~manner~~; requiring the State Board of Elections to adopt regulations and procedures  
 8 in accordance with the requirements of certain provisions of this Act for the  
 9 administration of voter registration on election day; and generally relating to  
 10 registration and voting at precinct polling places.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
 12 Article – Election Law  
 13 Section 3–302  
 14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 15 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

16 BY adding to  
 17 Article – Election Law  
 18 Section 3–306  
 19 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 20 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

23 **Article – Election Law**

24 3–302.

25 (a) Except as provided under [§ 3–305] **§§ 3–305 AND 3–306** of this subtitle,  
 26 registration is closed beginning at 9 p.m. on the 21st day preceding an election until the  
 27 11th day after that election.

28 (b) A voter registration application received when registration is closed shall be  
 29 accepted and retained by a local board, but the registration of the applicant does not become  
 30 effective until registration reopens.

31 (c) A voter registration application that is received by the local board after the  
 32 close of registration shall be considered timely received for the next election provided:

33 (1) there is sufficient evidence, as determined by the local board pursuant  
 34 to regulations adopted by the State Board, that the application was mailed on or before  
 35 registration was closed for that election; or



1           **(3) IF THE VOTER IS A RESIDENT OF THE COUNTY BUT NOT THE**  
 2 **PRECINCT, IS QUALIFIED TO REGISTER TO VOTE, AND CHOOSES TO VOTE IN THE**  
 3 **PRECINCT, THE ELECTION JUDGE SHALL:**

4                   **(I) ISSUE THE VOTER A VOTER AUTHORITY CARD;**

5                   **(II) HAVE THE VOTER SIGN THE VOTER AUTHORITY CARD; AND**

6                   **(III) ISSUE THE VOTER A PROVISIONAL BALLOT.**

7           **(D) (1) ~~THE LOCAL BOARDS~~ UNLESS A LOCAL BOARD ELECTS TO MAKE**  
 8 **THE NOTIFICATION, THE STATE BOARD SHALL TAKE APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO**  
 9 **NOTIFY POTENTIAL REGISTRANTS OF THE CORRECT PRECINCT POLLING PLACE FOR**  
 10 **THE POTENTIAL REGISTRANTS' RESIDENCE ADDRESSES BEFORE EACH ELECTION.**

11           **(2) THE ELECTION JUDGE SHALL NOTIFY AN INDIVIDUAL WHO**  
 12 **APPLIES TO REGISTER TO VOTE AT THE INCORRECT PRECINCT FOR THE VOTER'S**  
 13 **RESIDENCE ADDRESS OF THE CORRECT PRECINCT FOR THE VOTER'S RESIDENCE**  
 14 **ADDRESS.**

15           ~~**(E) (1) WHEN A VOTER APPLIES TO CHANGE THE VOTER'S ADDRESS AT A**~~  
 16 ~~**PRECINCT POLLING PLACE ON ELECTION DAY, THE ELECTION JUDGE SHALL**~~  
 17 ~~**DETERMINE WHETHER THE VOTER RESIDES IN THE PRECINCT IN WHICH THE VOTER**~~  
 18 ~~**SEEKS TO VOTE.**~~

19           ~~**(2) IF THE VOTER IS A RESIDENT OF THE PRECINCT, THE ELECTION**~~  
 20 ~~**JUDGE SHALL:**~~

21                   ~~**(I) ISSUE THE VOTER A VOTER AUTHORITY CARD;**~~

22                   ~~**(II) HAVE THE VOTER SIGN THE VOTER AUTHORITY CARD; AND**~~

23                   ~~**(III) ISSUE THE VOTER A REGULAR BALLOT.**~~

24           ~~**(3) IF THE VOTER IS A RESIDENT OF THE COUNTY BUT NOT THE**~~  
 25 ~~**PRECINCT, THE ELECTION JUDGE SHALL:**~~

26                   ~~**(I) ISSUE THE VOTER A VOTER AUTHORITY CARD;**~~

27                   ~~**(II) HAVE THE VOTER SIGN THE VOTER AUTHORITY CARD; AND**~~

28                   ~~**(III) ISSUE THE VOTER A PROVISIONAL BALLOT.**~~

1        ~~(F)~~ (E)        THE STATE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS AND  
2 PROCEDURES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION FOR  
3 THE ADMINISTRATION OF VOTER REGISTRATION ON ELECTION DAY.

4        SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
5 October 1, 2019.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.