

# HOUSE BILL 996

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CF SB 304

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By: **Delegate Cain**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2019

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Absentee Ballot Deposit Boxes**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring each local board of elections to designate at least one site in  
4 the county for the location of a secure and locked deposit box for the return of  
5 absentee ballots on election day; requiring each early voting center to provide a  
6 secure and locked deposit box for the return of absentee ballots; and generally  
7 relating to the return of absentee ballots.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

9 Article – Election Law

10 Section 2–202(b)(10) and (11) and 10–301.1(e)

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

13 BY adding to

14 Article – Election Law

15 Section 2–202(b)(12)

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

19 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

20 **Article – Election Law**

21 2–202.

22 (b) Each local board, in accordance with the provisions of this article and  
23 regulations adopted by the State Board, shall:

24 (10) maintain and dispose of its records in accordance with the plan adopted

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 by the State Board under § 2–106 of this title; [and]

2 (11) administer voter registration and absentee voting for nursing homes  
3 and assisted living facilities in accordance with procedures established by the State  
4 Administrator, subject to the approval of the State Board; AND

5 (12) DESIGNATE AT LEAST ONE SITE IN THE COUNTY FOR THE  
6 LOCATION OF A SECURE AND LOCKED DEPOSIT BOX FOR THE RETURN OF ABSENTEE  
7 BALLOTS ON ELECTION DAY.

8 10–301.1.

9 (e) Each early voting center shall:

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

11 (2) PROVIDE A SECURE AND LOCKED DEPOSIT BOX FOR THE RETURN  
12 OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS.

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
14 1, 2019.