

# SENATE BILL 364

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By: **Senators Simonaire, Bailey, Carozza, Ellis, Gallion, Kagan, Lam, Patterson, and Young**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2019

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted with floor amendments

Read second time: March 6, 2019

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

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Election Day Page Program – Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Election Day Page Program; providing for the purpose  
4 of the Program; requiring the State Board of Elections to develop a certain page  
5 training program for use by local boards of elections that participate in the Program;  
6 authorizing the State Board to adopt certain regulations; authorizing a local board  
7 to participate in the Program; requiring a participating local board to implement or  
8 use the components of a certain page training program; authorizing a participating  
9 local board to request a certain waiver from the State Board; requiring participating  
10 local boards to staff and implement a page training program developed by the State  
11 Board and program, to ensure each page receives certain training, and to encourage  
12 certain individuals to train as an election judge; prohibiting an individual from  
13 working as a page unless the individual completes certain training; requiring  
14 participating local boards, in ~~coordination~~ collaboration with local school systems, to  
15 establish a procedure for the selection of pages; authorizing participating local  
16 boards to recognize and certify community service hours for participating pages;  
17 providing for the construction of certain provisions of law; establishing qualifications  
18 for pages; prohibiting a page from engaging in certain conduct; authorizing a page to  
19 work up to a certain number of shifts; requiring a page to serve under the direct  
20 supervision of a certain election judge and to assist with certain duties; requiring a  
21 page to take and subscribe to a certain oath; requiring a participating local board to  
22 provide and maintain the oath signed by a page; defining certain terms; and  
23 generally relating to the Election Day Page Program.

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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.



1 BY adding to  
2 Article – Election Law  
3 Section 10–401 through 10–405 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 4. Election  
4 Day Page Program”  
5 Annotated Code of Maryland  
6 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

9 **Article – Election Law**

10 **SUBTITLE 4. ELECTION DAY PAGE PROGRAM.**

11 **10–401.**

12 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
13 INDICATED.

14 (B) “PAGE” MEANS A STUDENT SELECTED BY A LOCAL BOARD  
15 PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM TO ASSIST THE LOCAL BOARD AND ELECTION  
16 JUDGES IN PERFORMING ELECTION DAY DUTIES IN A POLLING PLACE ON ELECTION  
17 DAY.

18 (C) “PROGRAM” MEANS THE ELECTION DAY PAGE PROGRAM.

19 **10–402.**

20 (A) THERE IS AN ELECTION DAY PAGE PROGRAM.

21 (B) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO:

22 (1) STIMULATE THE INTEREST OF STUDENTS IN THE ELECTION  
23 PROCESS;

24 (2) PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO ELECTION JUDGES IN POLLING PLACES  
25 ON ELECTION DAY; AND

26 (3) ENSURE THE SAFE ENTRY AND EXIT OF ELDERLY VOTERS AND  
27 VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES FROM POLLING PLACES.

28 (C) THE STATE BOARD:

1 (1) SHALL DEVELOP A PAGE TRAINING PROGRAM FOR USE BY  
2 PARTICIPATING LOCAL BOARDS THAT INCLUDES THE DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES,  
3 AND PROHIBITED CONDUCT OF PAGES AT A POLLING PLACE ON ELECTION DAY; AND

4 (2) MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF  
5 THIS SUBTITLE.

6 10-403.

7 (A) (1) A LOCAL BOARD MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM.

8 (2) A PARTICIPATING LOCAL BOARD SHALL IMPLEMENT OR USE  
9 COMPONENTS OF THE PAGE TRAINING PROGRAM DEVELOPED BY THE STATE BOARD  
10 UNDER § 10-402(C)(1) OF THIS SUBTITLE.

11 (3) A PARTICIPATING LOCAL BOARD MAY REQUEST FROM THE STATE  
12 BOARD A WAIVER FROM A REQUIREMENT ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

13 (B) EACH PARTICIPATING LOCAL BOARD SHALL:

14 (1) BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE STAFFING OF AND IMPLEMENTATION  
15 OF ~~THE A PAGE~~ TRAINING PROGRAM ~~DEVELOPED UNDER § 10-402 OF THIS~~  
16 ~~SUBTITLE; AND~~

17 (2) ENSURE EACH PAGE RECEIVES THE REQUIRED TRAINING BEFORE  
18 ELECTION DAY; AND

19 (3) ENCOURAGE INDIVIDUALS AT LEAST 16 YEARS OLD WHO APPLY TO  
20 THE PROGRAM TO TRAIN AS AN ELECTION JUDGE.

21 (C) AN INDIVIDUAL MAY NOT WORK AS A PAGE IN A POLLING PLACE UNLESS  
22 THE INDIVIDUAL HAS COMPLETED THE TRAINING PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL BOARD.

23 (D) EACH PARTICIPATING LOCAL BOARD, IN ~~COORDINATION~~  
24 COLLABORATION WITH THE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM, SHALL ESTABLISH A  
25 PROCEDURE FOR THE SELECTION OF PAGES BY THE LOCAL BOARD.

26 (E) EACH PARTICIPATING LOCAL BOARD MAY RECOGNIZE AND CERTIFY  
27 COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS FOR PAGES.

28 (F) THIS SECTION DOES NOT REQUIRE A LOCAL BOARD TO PARTICIPATE IN  
29 THE PROGRAM.

30 10-404.

1 (A) TO QUALIFY AS A PAGE, AN INDIVIDUAL MUST:

2 (1) ~~BE UNDER THE AGE OF 16 YEARS;~~

3 ~~(2)~~ (1) BE A STUDENT ENROLLED IN A PUBLIC OR NONPUBLIC  
4 SCHOOL IN GRADE ~~6~~ 9 OR HIGHER; OR

5 (II) ~~BE A PARTICIPANT IN A HOME INSTRUCTION PROGRAM~~  
6 ~~RECEIVING ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION~~ REGULAR, THOROUGH INSTRUCTION DURING  
7 THE SCHOOL YEAR IN THE STUDIES USUALLY TAUGHT IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS ON A  
8 LEVEL EQUIVALENT TO GRADE 6 OR HIGHER;

9 ~~(3)~~ (2) APPLY TO THE LOCAL BOARD IN THE INDIVIDUAL'S COUNTY  
10 OF RESIDENCE;

11 ~~(4)~~ (3) BE AVAILABLE TO WORK AT LEAST ONE FULL 4-HOUR SHIFT  
12 ON ELECTION DAY; AND

13 ~~(5)~~ (4) COMPLETE THE REQUIRED TRAINING BEFORE ELECTION  
14 DAY.

15 (B) A PAGE MAY NOT:

16 (1) ENGAGE IN ANY PARTISAN ACTIVITY WHILE WORKING AT A  
17 POLLING PLACE; OR

18 (2) HANDLE OR TOUCH A MARKED BALLOT AT ANY TIME.

19 (C) A PAGE MAY WORK UP TO TWO 4-HOUR SHIFTS AT A POLLING PLACE ON  
20 ELECTION DAY.

21 (D) EACH PAGE SHALL:

22 (1) SERVE UNDER THE DIRECT SUPERVISION OF THE CHIEF  
23 ELECTION JUDGES FOR THE ASSIGNED POLLING PLACE; AND

24 (2) ASSIST ELECTION JUDGES WITH ELECTION DAY DUTIES, AS  
25 DIRECTED.

26 10-405.

27 (A) EACH PAGE SHALL TAKE AND SUBSCRIBE TO A WRITTEN OATH.

1           **(B) THE SIGNED OATH, WHEN RETURNED TO THE LOCAL BOARD, SHALL**  
2 **CONSTITUTE THE COMMISSION OF POSITION OF ELECTION DAY PAGE.**

3           **(C) EACH LOCAL BOARD SHALL PRESCRIBE A FORM FOR THE COMBINED**  
4 **OATH AND COMMISSION REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION.**

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

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.