

SENATE BILL 666

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0lr1773

By: **Senator Lee**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2020

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Time Off For Employee Voting**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring every employer in the State to allow any employee, rather
4 than any employee who claims to be a registered voter, in the State a certain period
5 of absence from work to vote in an election, rather than only on election day;
6 repealing a requirement that an employee furnish proof to the employer that the
7 employee voted or attempted to vote on a form prescribed by the State Board of
8 Elections; requiring an employee to furnish reasonable proof to the employer if the
9 employee has voted or attempted to vote outside the State; making a stylistic change;
10 and generally relating to time off for employee voting.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – Election Law
13 Section 10–315
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2019 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 10–315.

20 (a) Every employer in the State shall [permit] **ALLOW** any employee [who claims
21 to be a registered voter] in the State a period not to exceed 2 hours absence from work [on
22 election day in order to cast a ballot] **TO VOTE IN AN ELECTION** if the employee does not
23 have 2 hours of continuous off–duty **TIME** during the time that the polls are open.

24 (b) The employer shall pay the employee for the 2 hours absence from work.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (c) (1) Each employee shall furnish to the employer proof that the employee
2 has voted or attempted to vote.

3 (2) [The proof that an employee has voted or attempted to vote shall be on
4 a form prescribed by the State Board.] **IF THE EMPLOYEE HAS VOTED OR ATTEMPTED**
5 **TO VOTE OUTSIDE THE STATE, THE EMPLOYEE SHALL FURNISH REASONABLE PROOF**
6 **IN A TIMELY MANNER TO THE EMPLOYER.**

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
8 1, 2020.