

Chapter 108

(House Bill 265)

AN ACT concerning

State Board of Elections – Address Confidentiality Program – Designation of Contact Person

FOR the purpose of requiring the State Board of Elections to designate a contact person for the Address Confidentiality Program; and generally relating to the State Board of Elections and the Address Confidentiality Program.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – State Government

Section 7–303

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – State Government

Section 7–309

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

Article – State Government

7–303.

The Secretary of State shall establish and administer an Address Confidentiality Program for survivors of threatened, attempted, or actual domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, harassment, or human trafficking.

7–309.

(a) (1) Each local board of elections shall use a Program participant's actual address for all election-related purposes, **INCLUDING ABSENTEE BALLOTS**.

(2) A Program participant may not use the substitute address designated by the Secretary of State as the Program participant's address for voter registration purposes.

(b) A local board of elections may not make a Program participant's address contained in voter registration records available for public inspection or copying except:

- (1) on request by a law enforcement agency for law enforcement purposes;
- and
- (2) as directed by a court order to disclose the address.

(C) (1) THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS SHALL DESIGNATE A CONTACT PERSON FOR THE PROGRAM.

(2) THE CONTACT PERSON SHALL ACT AS CONTACT FOR INQUIRIES ABOUT THE PROGRAM FROM LOCAL BOARDS OF ELECTIONS AND PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS ON MATTERS RELATED TO IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION.

(D) THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, April 14, 2026.