

HB1001/693227/1

BY: Government, Labor, and Elections Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 1001
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, strike “**Local Board of Elections Employees –**”; in line 3, after “**Places**” insert “**– Revisions**”; in line 5, strike “a local board of elections employee” and substitute “a local election director”; strike beginning with the second “local” in line 5 down through “serving” in line 6 and substitute “, in”; in line 6, strike “have” and substitute “a local election director has”; in line 7, strike “authorizing” and substitute “requiring a”; in the same line, strike “board employees” and substitute “election director”; in line 8, strike the second comma and substitute “certain challengers and watchers; authorizing a local election director, while serving in a polling place, to”; in the same line, strike the third comma; in line 9, after “circumstances;” insert “altering the persons that may designate a registered voter as an accredited challenger or watcher at each polling place; authorizing certain persons to designate accredited challengers or watchers at early voting centers;”; in line 10, strike “local board employees” and substitute “individuals”; in the same line, after “places” insert “and early voting centers”; and in line 13, strike “10–311(d) and (e)” and substitute “10–311”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in lines 2 and 3, in each instance, strike “**OR**”; in lines 2 and 4, in each instance, strike “**A LOCAL BOARD EMPLOYEE**” and substitute “**OR A LOCAL ELECTION DIRECTOR**”; in line 9, strike “**WHILE SERVING IN**” and substitute “**IN**”; in the same line, strike “**A LOCAL BOARD EMPLOYEE**” and substitute “**A LOCAL ELECTION DIRECTOR**”; in lines 17, 20, 24, and 28, in each instance, strike “**BOARD EMPLOYEE**” and substitute “**ELECTION DIRECTOR**”; and in line 18, strike “**MAY**” and substitute “**SHALL**”.

On page 3, after line 1, insert:

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“(a) (1) The following persons [or entities] have the right to designate a registered voter as [a] AN ACCREDITED challenger or a watcher at each POLLING place [of registration and election] OR EARLY VOTING CENTER:

(i) the State Board for any [polling place] LOCATION in the State;

(ii) a local board for any [polling place located] LOCATION in the county of the local board;

(iii) a candidate FOR ANY LOCATION WHERE THE CANDIDATE IS INCLUDED ON THE BALLOT;

(iv) a political party; [and]

(v) [any other group of voters supporting or opposing a candidate, principle, or proposition on the ballot] A POLITICAL COMMITTEE; AND

(VI) A PERSON REQUIRED TO FILE REPORTS UNDER § 13–306 OR § 13–307 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(2) A person who appoints [a] AN ACCREDITED challenger or watcher may remove the challenger or watcher at any time.

(b) Except as provided in § 10–303(d)(2) of this subtitle and subsection (d) of this section, [a] AN ACCREDITED challenger or watcher has the right to:

(1) enter the polling place OR EARLY VOTING CENTER one–half hour before the polls open;

(2) enter or be present at the polling place OR EARLY VOTING CENTER at any time when the polls are open;

(3) remain in the polling place OR EARLY VOTING CENTER until the completion of all tasks associated with the close of the polls under § 10–314 of this subtitle and the election judges leave the polling place OR EARLY VOTING CENTER;

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(4) maintain a list of registered voters who have voted, or individuals who have cast provisional ballots, and take the list outside of the polling place **OR EARLY VOTING CENTER**; and

(5) enter and leave a polling place **OR EARLY VOTING CENTER** for the purpose of taking outside of the polling place **OR EARLY VOTING CENTER** information that identifies registered voters who have cast ballots or individuals who have cast provisional ballots.

(c) (1) (i) A certificate signed by [any party or candidate] A **DESIGNATING PERSON** shall be sufficient evidence of the right of [a] **AN ACCREDITED** challenger or watcher to be present in the voting room.

(ii) The State Board shall prescribe a form that shall be supplied to the **ACCREDITED** challenger or watcher by the **DESIGNATING** person [or entity designating the challenger or watcher].

(III) A DESIGNATING PERSON SHALL SUBMIT A COPY OF THE CERTIFICATE OF AN ACCREDITED CHALLENGER OR WATCHER TO THE APPROPRIATE LOCAL BOARD BEFORE THE ACCREDITED CHALLENGER OR WATCHER MAY ENTER THE VOTING ROOM.

(2) A challenger or watcher shall be positioned near the election judges and inside the voting room so that the challenger or watcher may see and hear each person as the person offers to vote.”;

in lines 4, 12, 14, and 16, in each instance, after “place” insert “**OR EARLY VOTING CENTER**”; in line 6, after “document” insert “**OR VOTING EQUIPMENT**”; and in lines 7, 13, and 17, in each instance, strike “**BOARD EMPLOYEE**” and substitute “**ELECTION DIRECTOR**”.