

HOUSE BILL 115

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(PRE-FILED)

6lr0654
CF SB 241

By: ~~Delegate Wilkins~~ Delegates Wilkins, Wells, Sample-Hughes, Lehman, and Crutchfield

Requested: July 23, 2025

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2026

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 4, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Individuals Released From State Correctional Facilities –**
3 **Automatic Restoration of Voter Registration**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring, on or before a certain date, the State Board of Elections and
5 the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to jointly develop and
6 implement certain procedures and a certain electronic transmission process for the
7 restoration of voter registration for individuals released from incarceration at a State
8 correctional facility; requiring the Department of Public Safety and Correctional
9 Services to transmit a certain list of individuals released from incarceration at a
10 State correctional facility to the State Board of Elections in a certain manner;
11 requiring the State Board to automatically promptly restore the voter registration of
12 certain individuals released from State correctional facilities who were registered to
13 vote in the State before being incarcerated; prohibiting certain information
14 regarding voters registered through the Department the voter registration agency
15 through which a formerly incarcerated voter has registered from being disclosed
16 under the Public Information Act to the public; and generally relating to automatic
17 restoration of voter registration for individuals released from State correctional
18 facilities.

19 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
20 Article – Correctional Services
21 Section 1–101(a), (f), and (q) and 2–601
22 Annotated Code of Maryland

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 (2025 Replacement Volume)

2 BY adding to
3 Article – Election Law
4 Section 3–203.1
5 Annotated Code of Maryland
6 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

9 **Article – Correctional Services**

10 1–101.

11 (a) In this article the following words have the meanings indicated.

12 (f) “Department” means the Department of Public Safety and Correctional
13 Services.

14 (q) (1) “State correctional facility” means a correctional facility that is
15 operated by the State.

16 (2) “State correctional facility” includes:

17 (i) the Patuxent Institution;

18 (ii) the Baltimore City Detention Center; and

19 (iii) the centralized booking facility in Baltimore City that is operated
20 by the Division of Pretrial Detention and Services in the Department of Public Safety and
21 Correctional Services.

22 2–601.

23 The Department shall:

24 (1) provide each individual who is released from a correctional facility with
25 a voter registration application and documentation with the individual’s discharge papers
26 that informs the individual that the individual’s voting rights have been restored;

27 (2) display a sign in each parole and probation office, in a conspicuous
28 location where notices to the public are customarily posted, indicating that any individual
29 who is no longer incarcerated has the right to vote; and

30 (3) post a notice, in a conspicuous location on the Department’s website,
31 indicating that any individual who is no longer incarcerated has the right to vote.

Article – Election Law

3-203.1.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 1-101 OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES ARTICLE.

(B) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2028, THE STATE BOARD AND THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES JOINTLY SHALL DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT PROCEDURES AND AN ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION PROCESS THAT COMPLY WITH THIS SECTION FOR THE RESTORATION OF VOTER REGISTRATION FOR INDIVIDUALS RELEASED FROM INCARCERATION AT A STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY.

~~(B)~~ (C) ON A ~~WEEKLY~~ MONTHLY BASIS, THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES SHALL ELECTRONICALLY TRANSMIT TO THE STATE BOARD A LIST THAT INCLUDES THE ~~NAME AND NEW RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS OF~~ FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL WHO WAS RELEASED FROM INCARCERATION AT A STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY IN THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING ~~WEEK~~ MONTH:

(1) THE INDIVIDUAL’S FULL NAME;

(2) THE INDIVIDUAL’S DATE OF BIRTH;

(3) THE LAST FOUR DIGITS OF THE INDIVIDUAL’S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER, DRIVER’S LICENSE NUMBER, OR STATE-ISSUED IDENTIFICATION CARD NUMBER;

(4) THE DATE THE INDIVIDUAL WAS RELEASED FROM INCARCERATION; AND

(5) THE INDIVIDUAL’S NEW RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

~~(B)~~ (D) ON RECEIPT OF THE LIST UNDER SUBSECTION ~~(B)~~ (C) OF THIS SECTION, THE STATE BOARD SHALL IDENTIFY EACH INDIVIDUAL ON THE LIST WHO WAS REGISTERED TO VOTE IN THE STATE BEFORE BEING INCARCERATED AND WHOSE NEW RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS IS LOCATED IN THE STATE.

~~(D)~~ (E) THE STATE BOARD SHALL ~~AUTOMATICALLY~~ PROMPTLY RESTORE THE VOTER REGISTRATION OF EACH INDIVIDUAL IDENTIFIED UNDER SUBSECTION ~~(C)~~ (D) OF THIS SECTION AT THE INDIVIDUAL’S NEW RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS AND GIVE THE INDIVIDUAL ACTIVE VOTER STATUS.

1 ~~(E)~~ (F) WITH THE VOTER NOTIFICATION CARD THAT IS SENT IN
2 ACCORDANCE WITH § 3-301(C) OF THIS TITLE TO EACH INDIVIDUAL WHOSE VOTER
3 REGISTRATION IS RESTORED UNDER SUBSECTION ~~(D)~~ (E) OF THIS SECTION, THE
4 ELECTION DIRECTOR SHALL ENCLOSE A NOTICE THAT INCLUDES A STATEMENT
5 THAT:

6 (1) THE INDIVIDUAL HAS BEEN REGISTERED TO VOTE AT THE
7 RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS THE INDIVIDUAL PROVIDED TO A STATE AGENCY;

8 (2) THE INDIVIDUAL IS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IN THE STATE IN ALL
9 FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL ELECTIONS; AND

10 (3) IF THE INDIVIDUAL WISHES TO DECLINE VOTER REGISTRATION,
11 OR IF THE INDIVIDUAL NEEDS TO UPDATE THE INDIVIDUAL'S RESIDENTIAL
12 ADDRESS, THE INDIVIDUAL SHOULD CONTACT THE STATE BOARD OR THE
13 APPROPRIATE LOCAL BOARD.

14 ~~(F)~~ (G) NOTWITHSTANDING ~~THE PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT, THE FACT~~
15 ~~THAT A PARTICULAR VOTER WAS REGISTERED THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF~~
16 ~~PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES UNDER THIS SECTION § 3-506 OF~~
17 ~~THIS TITLE AND THE PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT, THE IDENTITY OF THE VOTER~~
18 ~~REGISTRATION AGENCY THROUGH WHICH A FORMERLY INCARCERATED VOTER HAS~~
19 ~~REGISTERED UNDER THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE DISCLOSED TO THE PUBLIC.~~

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
21 January 1, 2027.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.