

# HOUSE BILL 689

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EMERGENCY BILL

6lr2717

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By: **Delegates Fair and Wells**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2026

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Candidates for Representative in Congress – Certificate of Candidacy Filing**  
3 **Deadline for the 2026 Election – Alteration**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the deadline for a candidate for Representative in Congress to  
5 file a certificate of candidacy for the statewide election held in 2026; and generally  
6 relating to the deadline for filing a certificate of candidacy.

7 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
8 That, notwithstanding § 5-303(a)(1) of the Election Law Article, for the statewide election  
9 held in 2026, a candidate for Representative in Congress shall file a certificate of candidacy  
10 not later than 9 p.m. on March 20, 2026.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency  
12 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has  
13 been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to  
14 each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is  
15 enacted.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

