

HOUSE BILL 1448

G1, L3

6lr2824
CF SB 848

By: **Delegate Tomlinson**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2026

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 3, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Municipal Elections – ~~Reporting of Information on Candidates and Voting~~**
3 **~~Procedures and Locations~~ to the State Board**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring a municipality to submit to the State Board of Elections the
5 qualifications to be a candidate for each office on the ballot in a municipal election,
6 the date of a special election and each office on the special election ballot, the list of
7 qualified candidates for each office on the ballot in a municipal election, and certain
8 information on voting procedures and locations in a municipal election on or before
9 certain dates; requiring the State Board to post the information submitted by a
10 municipality regarding a municipal election on the State Board's website
11 immediately on receipt; and generally relating to municipal elections.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – Local Government
14 Section 4–108.5
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2013 Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Local Government**

20 4–108.5.

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.



(a) In this section, "State Board" means the State Board of Elections.

(B) (1) (I) 1. ON OR BEFORE THE DATE THAT IS ~~6~~ 3 MONTHS BEFORE THE CANDIDATE FILING DEADLINE FOR A REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION, THE MUNICIPALITY SHALL SUBMIT TO THE STATE BOARD THE QUALIFICATIONS TO BE A CANDIDATE FOR EACH OFFICE ON THE MUNICIPAL BALLOT.

2. WITHIN 10 BUSINESS DAYS AFTER A SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION IS SCHEDULED, THE MUNICIPALITY SHALL REPORT TO THE STATE BOARD:

A. THE DATE OF THE SPECIAL ELECTION;

B. EACH OFFICE ON THE SPECIAL ELECTION BALLOT;

AND

C. THE QUALIFICATIONS TO BE A CANDIDATE FOR EACH OFFICE ON THE SPECIAL ELECTION BALLOT.

(II) IMMEDIATELY AFTER A MUNICIPALITY SUBMITS THE INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE STATE BOARD SHALL PUBLISH THE INFORMATION ON THE STATE BOARD'S WEBSITE.

(2) (I) ON OR BEFORE THE DATE THAT IS ~~1-WEEK~~ 10 BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE CANDIDATE FILING DEADLINE FOR A MUNICIPAL ELECTION, INCLUDING A SPECIAL ELECTION, THE MUNICIPALITY SHALL SUBMIT TO THE STATE BOARD:

1. A LIST OF EACH QUALIFIED CANDIDATE FOR EACH OFFICE ON THE MUNICIPAL BALLOT AND, IF THE ELECTION IS A PARTISAN ELECTION, THE PARTY AFFILIATION OF EACH CANDIDATE; AND

2. INFORMATION ON HOW TO VOTE AND WHERE TO VOTE IN THE MUNICIPAL ELECTION.

(II) IMMEDIATELY AFTER A MUNICIPALITY SUBMITS THE INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE STATE BOARD SHALL PUBLISH THE INFORMATION ON THE STATE BOARD'S WEBSITE.

[(b)] (C) (1) (I) The State Board shall, immediately after a municipality submits its election results, publish the election results on the State Board's website.

1 [(2)] (II) The election results published under [paragraph (1)]
2 SUBPARAGRAPH (I) of this [subsection] PARAGRAPH shall be organized by election year
3 and the name of the municipality.

4 [(c)] (2) Within 30 days after the results of a municipal election are certified,
5 the municipality shall submit to the State Board an electronic copy of the election results
6 for each office or question voted on at the election, including:

7 [(1)] (I) vote totals for each office or question reported separately by each
8 of the following voting methods, if applicable:

9 [(i)] 1. in-person early voting;

10 [(ii)] 2. mail-in voting or vote-by-mail;

11 [(iii)] 3. provisional voting; and

12 [(iv)] 4. in-person election day voting; and

13 [(2)] (II) if the municipality conducts partisan elections, the party
14 affiliation of each candidate.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
16 1, 2026.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.