

# SENATE BILL 241

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CF HB 115

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By: ~~Senator Augustine~~ **Senators Augustine, Brooks, Harris, and Watson**

Introduced and read first time: January 15, 2026

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 21, 2026

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## 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  
23 (2025 Replacement Volume)

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

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

8 **Article – Correctional Services**

9 1–101.

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

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

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

15 (2) “State correctional facility” includes:

16 (i) the Patuxent Institution;

17 (ii) the Baltimore City Detention Center; and

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

21 2–601.

22 The Department shall:

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

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

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

31 **Article – Election Law**

1 3-203.1.

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

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

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

16 (1) THE INDIVIDUAL'S FULL NAME;

17 (2) THE INDIVIDUAL'S DATE OF BIRTH;

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

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

23 (5) THE INDIVIDUAL'S NEW RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

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

28 ~~(D)~~ (E) THE STATE BOARD SHALL ~~AUTOMATICALLY~~ PROMPTLY RESTORE  
29 THE VOTER REGISTRATION OF EACH INDIVIDUAL IDENTIFIED UNDER SUBSECTION  
30 ~~(C)~~ (D) OF THIS SECTION AT THE INDIVIDUAL'S NEW RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS AND  
31 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:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.