SENATE BILL 443

G1 EMERGENCY BILL 6lr2901
CF HB 621

By: **Senators Carozza, Kagan, Hershey, and Mautz**
Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2026
Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

Committee Report: Favorable
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: February 25, 2026

CHAPTER _____

AN ACT concerning

Local Boards of Elections – Board Counsel – Qualifications

FOR the purpose of altering the qualifications for counsel to local boards of elections; and generally relating to local boards of elections.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Election Law
Section 2–201(a)(1)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Election Law
Section 2–205(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

Article – Election Law

2–201.

(a) (1) There is a county board of elections in each county of the State.

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.

2–205.

(a) Each local board may appoint or retain as counsel an individual who is:

(1) a registered voter of **[**its county**]** **THE STATE**; and

(2) admitted to practice law in the State.

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

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.