

# SENATE BILL 727

G1, L3

6lr3398  
CF HB 1066

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By: **Senators Lewis Young and Brooks**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2026

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Municipal Elections – Qualified Electronic Transmission Systems –**  
3 **Authorization for Use**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing a municipality to conduct a municipal election through the  
5 use of a qualified electronic transmission system; prohibiting a municipality from  
6 using information received from a voter using a qualified electronic transmission  
7 system for certain purposes; and generally relating to the use of qualified electronic  
8 transmission systems in municipal elections.

9 BY adding to  
10 Article – Local Government  
11 Section 4–107.1  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2013 Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Local Government**

17 **4–107.1.**

18 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “QUALIFIED ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION SYSTEM”**  
19 **MEANS AN ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION SYSTEM THROUGH WHICH A QUALIFIED**  
20 **VOTER MAY RECEIVE, MARK, AND RETURN A BALLOT AND THAT MAINTAINS**  
21 **REASONABLE DATA SECURITY AND VOTER INTEGRITY PROTECTIONS, INCLUDING:**

22 **(1) SECURITY AUDITABILITY;**

23 **(2) END–TO–END ENCRYPTION;**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           **(3)    END-TO-END VERIFIABILITY;**

2           **(4)    MULTIFACTOR AUTHENTICATION;**

3           **(5)    AIR-GAPPING;**

4           **(6)    A PROCESS FOR PRINTING DECRYPTED BALLOTS TO CREATE A**  
5 **PAPER RECORD; AND**

6           **(7)    BIOMETRIC OR EQUIVALENT DIGITAL IDENTITY VERIFICATION**  
7 **TECHNOLOGIES.**

8           **(B)    A MUNICIPALITY MAY CONDUCT A MUNICIPAL ELECTION THROUGH THE**  
9 **USE OF A QUALIFIED ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION SYSTEM.**

10          **(C)    A MUNICIPALITY MAY NOT USE INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM A VOTER**  
11 **USING A QUALIFIED ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IN A MUNICIPAL**  
12 **ELECTION FOR ANY PURPOSE OTHER THAN ELECTION ADMINISTRATION AND VOTER**  
13 **PARTICIPATION STATISTICS.**

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