

SENATE BILL 848

G1, L3

6lr2953
CF 6lr2824

By: **Senator Gallion**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2026

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Municipal Elections – Information on Candidates and Voting Procedures and**
3 **Locations**

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 list of qualified candidates for each office on the ballot in a municipal election,
7 and certain information on voting procedures and locations in a municipal election
8 on or before certain dates; requiring the State Board to post the information
9 submitted by a municipality regarding a municipal election on the State Board's
10 website immediately on receipt; and generally relating to municipal elections.

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

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

18 **Article – Local Government**

19 4–108.5.

20 (a) In this section, “State Board” means the State Board of Elections.

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(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 AFTER THE CANDIDATE FILING DEADLINE FOR A MUNICIPAL ELECTION, THE MUNICIPALITY SHALL SUBMIT TO THE STATE BOARD:

1. A LIST OF EACH QUALIFIED CANDIDATE FOR EACH OFFICE ON THE MUNICIPAL BALLOT; 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.

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

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

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

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

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

[(iii)] 3. provisional voting; and

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

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

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
4 1, 2026.