

Mail-in ballots are subject to fraud and the appearance of fraud.  
In person voting is the best way to insure the integrity of the vote and promote confidence in the election result.

Voter lists in all jurisdictions are not updated regularly. There are many names on the voter lists that are no longer eligible including those who have moved out of the district or out of state and those who have died or become ineligible for other reasons.

Mass-mailed ballots are subject to being “harvested” by removing them from mail boxes or from trash cans. Harvesting groups can unfairly pressure voters, particularly elderly or young voters, to vote for a specific candidate or slate of candidates. This practice is prevented with in person voting.

When a voter votes at their Precinct Polling Place on Election Day or during Early Voting their ballot is completely secret and their ability to vote for the candidates of their choice is protected. They know their ballot is counted because they place the ballot in the collator. They have no such assurance with an election by mail.

Marylanders expect to know election results on election night or at least by the next day. Delays in vote tabulations for weeks reduces confidence in the election results. The canvassing of ballots in elections-by-mail may be prolonged over weeks.

Maryland has long had poll-watchers observe the vote counting for absentee ballots. It is very difficult to have volunteer poll-watchers observe vote counting over several weeks.

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