

HB 113—In Favor of Voter I.D.----W.Adamson

I wish to testify in favor of this bill. We need a voter I.D. requirement in order to help assure that only those eligible to vote in Maryland are able to do so. It may not be the cure all for all voter fraud but it is a good start. From personal experience, I can tell you that a sister-in-law of mine who moved out of this State years ago, but who at one time was registered as living in my household (she was living on a boat in AA County and used my address as her legal residence), still to this day gets all the normal mail from the Board of Elections as if she were still a voter-eligible resident. I have repeatedly sent mail back with the notation that she no longer resides in the state of Maryland. Nothing has been done about it. It is obvious to me, therefore, that there are people on the voter list who are not eligible but yet the Board of Elections has failed to remove them. The risk of others voting in their names is definitely an issue. Obviously, the problem extends well beyond such individuals who have moved out of state. The chances of fraudulent votes have increased as we have added many more illegal aliens to the state population. A requirement to show an identification assures that at least the voter resides in the State at the address indicated. The bill should also make it more difficult to harvest ballots and place them in a drop box which is a definite source of fraud. Why shouldn't this state do whatever it takes to make sure that votes are legally cast and there is not taint of fraud? Polls have shown that all voters (white, black, Hispanic, etc) have been overwhelmingly in favor of voter I.D. This bill makes it easy to get an I.D. or to use other means for identification. Any voter of any race can easily obtain one of the types of I.D. listed in this bill. It is not racist in any way. It is my understanding that the State of Georgia, which has such a law, has seen a larger percentage of minority voters voting in elections since voter I.D. was instituted. If so, this should be proof that minorities are not being oppressed by such a law. Please vote in favor of this bill.

Wayne Adamson
1225 Van Buren Drive
Annapolis, MD.