

**230215-SB0329-voting-dif-state-same-year.pdf**

Uploaded by: Christine Hunt

Position: FAV

Christine Hunt and Jay Crouthers  
1014 Dockser Drive  
Crownsville, MD 21032

February 15, 2023

Maryland General Assembly  
Members of the Education, Energy and the Environment Committee  
Annapolis, MD

RE: SB0329-Election Law-Casting General Election Ballot in Multiple States-Prohibition

Dear Senators,

We support SB 329 and respectfully request that you vote for it.

No one should be voting in different states during a General Election. No one.

Please vote for this bill.

Sincerely,

Christine Hunt and Jay Crouthers

# **SB329VotingInMultipleStates.pdf**

Uploaded by: Justin Ready

Position: FAV

JUSTIN READY  
*Legislative District 5*  
Carroll County

—  
MINORITY WHIP

—  
Finance Committee



James Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street, Room 315  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3683 • 301-858-3683  
800-492-7122 Ext. 3683  
Justin.Ready@senate.state.md.us

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 16, 2023

**SB 329 Election Law – Casting General Election Ballot in Multiple States - Prohibition**

Chairman Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and members of the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee.

Senate Bill 329 will prohibit a person from willfully and knowingly casting a ballot in the general election in more than one state. A person who violates the prohibition is guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of up to \$5,000 and/or imprisonment for up to five years.

Requested by the Carroll County Board of Elections, this legislation is based on a 2018 case where it was discovered that a Westminster, Maryland man, Jeffrey Hartman, had voted nine times in both Maryland and West Virginia beginning in 2006. Mr. Hartman was prosecuted in West Virginia and sentenced to 30 days in jail, one year of probation, and ordered to pay \$100 in court costs. Mr. Hartman should have also been charged in Maryland.

Senate Bill 329 will add voting in two states to the list of voting violations already listed in the Election Law Article. I respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 329.

# **SB329 - Casting a Ballot in Multiple State General**

Uploaded by: Katherine Berry

Position: FAV



# ***Carroll County Board of Elections***



300 South Center Street, Room 212 Westminster, MD 21157-5366

410-386-2080

MD RELAY: Call 711 or 800-735-2258 (TTY)

Toll Free: 1-888-302-8978

ccboe@carrollcountymd.gov

elections.carrollcountymd.gov

FAX: 410-876-3925

February 16, 2023

Senator Brian J. Feldman, Chair  
Maryland House Ways and Means Committee  
Room 131, House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: S329 - Favorable

Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and Committee Members:

My name is Katherine Berry. I am the Election Director in Carroll County and here today to speak on behalf of the Carroll County Board Members as it pertains to SB329 - Election Law - Casting General Election Ballot in Multiple States - Prohibition.

This bill is related to a voter in our county who cast ballots in both West Virginia and Carroll County many years ago. The voter believed that they were allowed to do so because the two ballots did not have the same contests, and they did not think they were voting for any contest twice. The person was convicted of double-voting in West Virginia, but Maryland does not have any provision regarding such an issue.

The purpose of this bill is to make it clear that casting two ballots in a situation like this is not acceptable, even if the ballots have completely different contests. The language of the bill directly addresses this issue to ensure there is no confusion in the future.

We appreciate Senator Ready's efforts to put forth this bill again on behalf of the members of the Carroll County Board. Thank you for your time and we look forward to your positive report. If you have any questions, please contact me at (410)386-2958 or [Katherine.berry@maryland.gov](mailto:Katherine.berry@maryland.gov).



**SB0329\_ACRWC\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: Sarah Reichert-Price

Position: FAV



Senator Brian J. Feldman, Chair  
and Members of The Education, Energy and The Environment Committee  
Maryland Senate  
Annapolis, MD

RE: SB0329- Election Law - Casting General Election Ballot in Multiple States – Prohibition- **SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Feldman and Members of The EEE Committee,

I urge a FAVORABLE report for SB0329! This bill is a no-brainer! Casting a ballot in multiple states, for obvious reasons:

- Destroys voter integrity
- Destroys voters' confidence in fair election results
- "Stacks the deck" for one particular candidate, and
- Is outright immoral, and just plain wrong!

Therefore, I urge a FAVORABLE report for SB0329.

Thank you for your time considering this important matter.

Sarah Price (ACRWC)  
Westernport, MD

# **SB 329 Election Law - Casting General Election Bal**

Uploaded by: Ralph Watkins

Position: UNF



**TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, ENERGY, AND  
THE ENVIRONMENT**

**SB 329 – Election Law - Casting General Election Ballot in Multiple States -  
Prohibition**

**POSITION: Oppose**

**BY: Nancy Soreng, President**

**DATE: February 16, 2023**

The League always testifies in favor or in opposition to a bill when we have an adopted position or principle to do so. Understandably, we have not adopted a position that prohibits passing laws about things that are already prohibited by law.

Note that SB 329 proposes enacting a prohibition against something that's already illegal. See Title 52 of the **U.S. Code (Voting and Elections)**, §10307:

(e) Voting more than once:

(1) Whoever votes more than once in an election referred to in paragraph (2) shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.

(2) The prohibition of this subsection applies with respect to any general, special, or primary election held solely or in part for the purpose of selecting or electing any candidate for the office of President, Vice President, presidential elector, Member of the United States Senate, Member of the United States House of Representatives, Delegate from the District of Columbia, Guam, or the Virgin Islands, or Resident Commissioner of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

In addition, as the bill itself shows, §16-201 of the **Maryland Code of Election Law** already says:

(a) A person may not willfully and knowingly: ...

(2) vote more than once for a candidate for the same office or for the same ballot question;

(3) vote or attempt to vote more than once in the same election, or vote in more than one election district or precinct;

This bill sends the erroneous message that voting in multiple states is a common practice that needs to be addressed in new legislation. In addition, it risks creating conflict in the applicable law. We urge you to reject this bill and issue an unfavorable report.