

**HB 0022** Election Law – Absentee Ballots – Signature Requirements and Verification.

**Signature Verification**

The absentee ballot instructions clearly states the ballot will have the signature verified. Currently, there is NOTHING in place to verify a signature to the citizen requesting the absentee ballot with the actual absentee ballot. In order to provide the citizens of Maryland with voter integrity there MUST be signature verification process.

Below copied from voters services Maryland website:

*“Mail-in Ballot Request “*

*A member of the military or Merchant Marine on active duty & other UOCAVA types:*

*To use this system to request a ballot, you will need a Maryland driver's license or other MVA issued card, or a Social Security number.*

*If you have a Maryland driver's license or other MVA issued card, your personal information must match the information on file with the Maryland MVA. The information that must match is your name, your date of birth, and your driver's license or State ID number. **Your signature at the MVA will become your official voter registration signature.***

***If you do not have a valid Maryland driver's license or other MVA issued card, you can provide the last 4 digits of your Social Security number. These four digits of your social security number will be used as your official voter registration signature.***

***If you do not have the required ID or if you do not want to submit your application online, use this mail-in ballot request form to request for a mail-in ballot.”***

Why is the Maryland Driver’s license signature not used? Why is the social security administration signature not used? Signatures from the MVA administration could be imported into the voter records, Signatures from the SSA could also be imported into the voter records.

The last option should require the citizen to present at the local election board office with some sort of citizenship identification in order to create a new signature to be kept with their voter record.

I would like to tell you what happened during the last primary election, regarding unsigned ballots.

### Unsigned Ballot envelopes

I had a very good friend who was asked to count absentee ballots as part of the primary election in 2022. No signature verification was performed. Absentee Ballots WITHOUT a signature on the envelop are referred to by the Baltimore County Board of elections as uncured ballots. The ballots are given to the Baltimore County Board of elections and the Board makes the choice to accept the Ballot or not. The directions are very clear in the statement that ballots without a signature on the envelop will **NOT** be accepted.

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I would like to keep the below clicks as evidence of statements. I will not read the websites as part of my statement.

voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/OnlineMailinRequest/IDRequirements

THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Maryland

FIND YOUR POLLING PLACE | LOOKUP YOUR VOTER INFO | REGISTER TO VOTE | REQUEST A BALLOT

### Mail-in Ballot Request

English | Change language

**A member of the military or Merchant Marine on active duty & other UOCAVA types**

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If you do not have the required ID or if you do not want to submit your application online, use this [mail-in ballot request form](#) to request for a mail-in ballot.

**Next**

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151 West Street, Suite 200, Annapolis, MD 21401

(410) 269-2840 / (800) 222-8683 / info.sbe@maryland.gov

The mail in Ballot request form: Requires a signature

or for all future elections.

### Where should we send your ballot?

If you choose option B, we will email you a link to print your ballot about 3 weeks before the election.

If you choose option B or C, we will use the information on your ballot to mark an official ballot for you. Then we will scan the official ballot.

If you choose option B or C, you will need to use your own envelope and stamp to return your ballot by mail. Or you can deliver it to your election office or a drop box (when available).

Please see the instructions for deadlines.

### Choose A, B, or C (only choose 1)

#### A Send my ballot(s) by U.S. Mail to

Same address as above

Or a different address: Street \_\_\_\_\_ Unit # \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

#### B Email a link to print my ballot(s)

Email \_\_\_\_\_

And

MD Driver's License or ID Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Issue date (mm/dd/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_

Or

Last 4 digits of your Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_

#### C Fax my ballot(s)

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

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### About you

In case we have a question.

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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Email \_\_\_\_\_

If we have a question, how should we contact you?  Text Message  Email  Mail

### Signature

**Required.**

**Use a pen.** No electronic signatures allowed.

Anyone can help you fill out this form except

- A candidate on your ballot
- Your employer or an agent of your employer
- An officer or agent from your union

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#### Voter, sign and date here (Required)

|          |  |                           |
|----------|--|---------------------------|
| <b>X</b> |  | Today's Date (mm/dd/yyyy) |
|----------|--|---------------------------|

#### Assistant, sign and date here (Required if the voter received help on this form)

Under penalty of perjury, I hereby certify that this voter needed help with this form because he or she has a disability or is unable to read or write. The voter authorized me to complete this form. If the voter could not sign this form, I printed the voter's name and wrote my initials.

|          |  |                  |
|----------|--|------------------|
| <b>X</b> |  | Print voter name |
|----------|--|------------------|