

FAVORABLE With Amendment Testimony - HB0035 Elections – In–Person Voting – Proof of Identity

Proof of Identity is not accomplishing it's intent in it's current form. The intent of this bill is to prevent illegal aliens from voting and degrading the integrity of the election system.

Looking at the requirements for receiving a Maryland driver's license or a REAL ID, MVA shows that among other forms of age and identity, a permanent resident card is also allowed. A permanent resident card is defined in MD DLLR as Form I-551, the card is issued by USCIS to foreign nationals as evidence of their lawful permanent residence in the U.S. Therefore **permanent residence is NOT US Citizenship, which IS required in order to vote.** However this error is at the voter registration level not exactly a part of this bill, but necessary to point out.

If the voter is already registered, (and assuming that part of the election process is corrected), **and** they don't have a valid government issued id or drivers license, then **a signature should be required** with another form of id, rather than the all the items listed in (2) ii 2 (utility bill, etc.). The voter registration process requires a signature. If the person is who they say they are, then the signatures should match. And a signature verification forensic expert should be there to verify the signature so that the election official doesn't have to make a guess.

However using those items listed in (2) ii 2 (utility bill, etc.) allow identification different than that required for registration creating a point of possible fraud and that's what we're trying to eliminate.

Remember we are trying to verify the individual who for whatever reason doesn't have with them at the moment a valid government id and match him/her to someone already registered and already in the database. Using a signature will match at least one item to those items already in the voter registration database.

Therefore with regard to this bill and my amendments

Paragraph 10-310 (B)2(ii)2. should be deleted and replaced with
“DOCUMENTED SIGNATURE SIGNED IN FRONT OF JUDGE OR FORENSIC
SIGNATURE VERIFICATION EXPERT.”

I also would like to see paragraph (D) be changed “THE PERSON MAY NOT
VOTE UNTIL THEY HAVE THE PROPER ID.” Provisional ballots eventually get
counted. It is better to prevent the fraud rather than allow entry points for
it to occur.

**I’m in favor of This Bill but only with the amendments I’m
suggesting!**

**Nelda Fink
MD District 32**