JUSTIN READY Legislative District 5 Carroll County

MINORITY WHIP

Finance Committee



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND Annapolis, Maryland 21401

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SB 364 Election Law – Casting General Election Ballot in Multiple States – Prohibition

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

Senate Bill 364 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.

This was requested in the past by the Carroll County Board of Election, this legislation is based on a 2018 case where it was discovered that a Westminster, MD man, Jeffrey Hartman, had voted nine times in both Maryland and West Virginia beginning in 2006. Mr. Hartman was prosecuted in West Virginia and sentence to 30 days in jail, one year of probation, and order to pay \$100 in court costs. Mr. Hartman should have also been charged in Maryland. This bill simply fixes a loophole in our law.

Senate Bill 364 will add voting in two states to the list of voting violations already listed in the Election Law Article and allow for proper enforcement. I respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 364.