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—  
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—  
Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee  
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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**SB534: Election Judge No Show**

Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee  
Wednesday, February 26, 2025 1:00 PM

Election judges currently receive at least \$50 for each training course they complete, regardless of whether they ultimately serve. Around the State, prospective judges have taken part and been paid for training-- but failed to fulfill their duty at the polls. According to the Maryland Association of Election Officials (MAEO), in the most recent General Election alone, tens of thousands of dollars were paid to people who participated in the training, but never served.

[SB534](#) would clarify that LBEs can make payments only after service has been completed and verified, saving taxpayer money; judges who only report for training would not be compensated.

This bill also permits public school students to receive both Student Service Learning hours and compensation when they work at the polls. This would help to recruit and retain young election judges, thereby fostering civic engagement in the next generation. This body has already passed Civic Excellence ([SB8](#)) unanimously this session, and this portion of the bill would further engage young people in public service.

Sen. Gallion is a co-sponsor of this bipartisan bill.

**I urge a favorable report on SB534.**