



Maryland Municipal League
The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

February 11, 2025

Committee: House Ways & Means Committee

Bill: HB 680 – Municipal Elections - Voter Registration - List and Qualifications

Position: Oppose

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League opposes HB 680, which would require each municipality to have a voter registration process and prohibit someone from registering who is not a citizen of the United States.

House Bill 680 is a one-size-fits-all bill that does not make practical sense for Maryland. ***The vast majority*** of municipalities use poll books provided by county Local Boards of Elections as a voter list. However, some small towns with fewer than 120 residents (not all of whom are voting age), only require proof of residence during their election to cast a ballot. For them to create and maintain a registration list year-over-year would be a waste of resources for their limited staff.

Further, the League has long advocated for Maryland's cities and towns to serve as laboratories of democracy. This is especially true regarding voting rights, where several allow non-U.S. citizens to vote and others allow anyone over the age of 16 to vote.

For these reasons the League respectfully requests that this committee provide an unfavorable report on House Bill 680. For more information, please contact Justin Fiore, Deputy Director of Advocacy and Public Affairs, at justinf@mdmunicipal.org. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

The Maryland Municipal League uses its collective voice to advocate, empower and protect the interests of our 160 local governments members and elevates local leadership, delivers impactful solutions for our communities, and builds an inclusive culture for the 2 million Marylanders we serve.

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