



Secular Maryland

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January 28, 2025

HB 215 - FAV

Elections - Ranked-Choice Voting in Contests for Presidential Nomination and Certification of Election-Supporting Technology

Dear Vanessa E. Atterbeary, Vice-Chair Jheanelle K. Wilkins, Bonnie, and Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

This bill introduces ranked choice voting for presidential primary elections. Ranked choice voting makes it easier for voters to opt to vote their actual preferences and still have a role in selecting the eventual winner when there are multiple candidates on the ballot yet only one winner, as is often the case in presidential primary elections. Enabling more voters to more fully and accurately vote their actual preferences increases voter satisfaction with the election process and the election results. This also makes it less likely that a small minority of voters will elect a candidate who is strongly disliked by the majority of voters. There are multiple different methods for calculating the winner. One of the best methods is Condorcet, one of the simplest methods Instant Runoff. Either way, Secular Maryland favors this bill.

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