

Testimony For SB0845

Honorable Delegates

Please enter a favorable report for SB0845, the Maryland Voter Registration List Accuracy and Integrity Act.

I heartily support

- requiring an election director of a local board of elections to immediately remove a registered voter from the statewide voter registration list when the local board receives a certain report that the registered voter is deceased;
- requiring the election director to take certain action if the election director receives information that a voter removed from the statewide voter registration list is not in fact deceased;
- requiring and authorizing the State Board of Elections to take certain actions if a local board is not in compliance with certain procedures for the removal from the statewide voter registration list of registered voters who are reported deceased

The items listed above would go a long way to improving the integrity of our elections. Increasing the use of mail-in ballots, now defined as absentee ballots, has caused vulnerabilities for identity theft such that one cannot be sure the person submitting the ballot form is actually the person whose identity information is listed on the ballot. Without any signature verification requirement, there is no real control to verify that the ballot represents the registered voter. With poor registration database controls, Maryland's voter registration file contains deceased voters and voters who no longer reside in the state or no longer reside in the precinct for that ballot.

So please enter a favorable report for SB0845, and help improve the accuracy and integrity of the Maryland Voter Registration list for future elections..

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