



Senate Education, Energy and the Environment

**SB0073: Election Law – Polling Place Procedures – Voting by Elderly Voters and Voters With Disabilities (Accessible and Expedited Voting Act of Maryland)**  
**February 11, 2026**

**Position: Support**

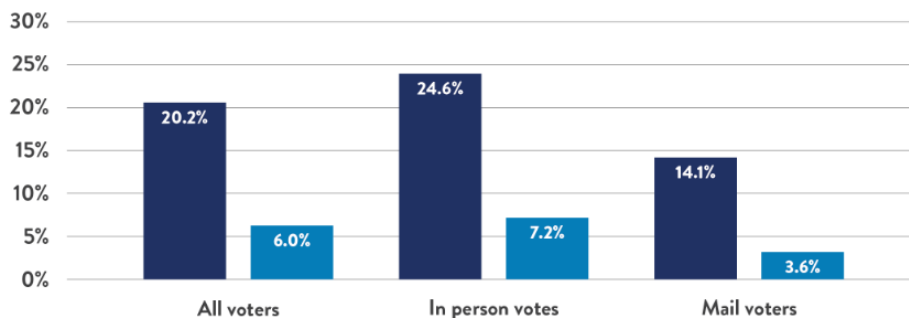
The Arc Maryland is a statewide advocacy organization for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We work to protect and advance the rights of people with disabilities and to make it possible for people with developmental disabilities to live the lives they want with the support they need.

SB73 requires the State Board of Elections to establish guidelines for an expedited voting process for older voters and voters with disabilities that is accessible. The process for accessible and expedited voting will include early voting and all polling places; collecting feedback from the voters to make any adjustments as needed; and including instructions for election judge training on the best practices for assisting the voters.

This bill is important to enhance access to voters with disabilities. Many people with disabilities are registered voters, however, people with disabilities vote at a lower rate compared to people without disabilities.

A 2022 Rutgers report found that 20.2% of voters with disabilities reported they experienced difficulty with voting compared to 6% of voters without disabilities.<sup>1</sup>

**FIGURE 4** Needing Assistance or Having Difficulty in Voting, 2022 ■ Any disability ■ No disability



More people with disabilities vote in elections when there are expanded accessible voting options.

We support this legislation because it helps reduce barriers for people with disabilities and older adults so they may have equity in the exercise of their right to vote.

For additional information, please contact: Ande Kolp, Executive Director  
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<sup>i</sup> [https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/2023-07/EAC\\_2023\\_Rutgers\\_Report\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/2023-07/EAC_2023_Rutgers_Report_FINAL.pdf)