
By: **Senators Greenip, Brinkley, Brochin, Colburn, Della, Hafer, Haines,
Harris, Hooper, Jacobs, Kittleman, Mooney, Munson, and Stoltzfus**

Introduced and read first time: February 20, 2006

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law - Early Voting - Delayed Implementation**

3 FOR the purpose of delaying the implementation of the process that allows voting at
4 early polling places during a certain period prior to an election day; delaying the
5 date on which the Governor is required to allocate certain resources in support
6 of early voting; and generally relating to the delayed implementation of early
7 voting in the State.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article - Election Law
10 Section 10-301.1
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2003 Volume and 2005 Supplement)
13 (As enacted by Chapter 5 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2006)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Chapter 5 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2006
16 Section 2

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
18 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article - Election Law**

20 10-301.1.

21 (a) Except as provided under Title 9, Subtitle 3 of this Article, a voter shall
22 vote:

23 (1) in the voter's assigned precinct on election day; or

24 (2) in an early voting polling place as provided in this section.

25 (b) Each early voting polling place shall be open for voting:

1 (1) beginning the Tuesday before a primary or general election through
2 the Saturday before the election; and

3 (2) 8 hours each day during the period specified under paragraph (1) of
4 this subsection.

5 (c) (1) Each local board shall establish the early voting polling places in its
6 county.

7 (2) (i) In the following counties, the local board shall establish at least
8 three early voting polling places for each primary or general election:

- 9 1. Anne Arundel;
- 10 2. Baltimore City;
- 11 3. Baltimore County;
- 12 4. Harford;
- 13 5. Howard;
- 14 6. Montgomery; and
- 15 7. Prince George's.

16 (ii) In each county other than a county specified in subparagraph (i)
17 of this paragraph, the local board shall establish at least one early voting polling place
18 for each primary or general election.

19 (3) Polling places established by a local board under this section shall
20 meet the requirements of § 10-101 of this title.

21 (d) (1) A voter may vote at any early voting polling place in the voter's
22 county of residence.

23 (2) The local board shall ensure that every ballot style used in the county
24 for the election is available at the early voting polling places.

25 (e) On or before January 1, [2006] 2008, the State Board shall adopt
26 regulations and guidelines for the conduct of early voting.

27 (f) Any provision of this article that applies to election day also shall apply to
28 early voting.

29

Chapter 5 of the Acts of 2006

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Governor shall
31 allocate the resources required to implement the requirements of this Act, including
32 any gift received by the State for the purposes of this Act under § 2-201 of the State
33 Finance and Procurement Article, or, except for federal funds received by the State to

1 implement the requirements of the Help America Vote Act 2002, any federal or other
2 funds or grant received by the State in accordance with federal and State law for the
3 purposes of this Act by fiscal year [2007] 2009 and each fiscal year thereafter.

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That § 10-301.1 of the Election
5 Law Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, may not be implemented until the
6 primary and general elections of 2008.

7 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
8 June 1, 2006.