

SENATE BILL 800

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By: **Senator Ready**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2020

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Casting General Election Ballot in Multiple Locations –**
3 **Prohibition**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from willfully or knowingly casting a ballot in a
5 general election in more than one location in the same year; and generally relating
6 to election law violations related to voting.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – Election Law
9 Section 16–201
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Election Law**

15 16–201.

16 (a) A person may not willfully and knowingly:

17 (1) (i) impersonate another person in order to vote or attempt to vote;

18 or

19 (ii) vote or attempt to vote under a false name;

20 (2) vote more than once for a candidate for the same office or for the same
21 ballot question;

22 (3) vote or attempt to vote more than once in the same election, or vote in

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 more than one election district or precinct;

2 (4) CAST A BALLOT IN A GENERAL ELECTION IN MORE THAN ONE
3 LOCATION IN THE SAME YEAR;

4 (5) vote in an election district or precinct without the legal authority to vote
5 in that election district or precinct;

6 [(5)] (6) influence or attempt to influence a voter's voting decision
7 through the use of force, threat, menace, intimidation, bribery, reward, or offer of reward;

8 [(6)] (7) influence or attempt to influence a voter's decision whether to go
9 to the polls to cast a vote through the use of force, fraud, threat, menace, intimidation,
10 bribery, reward, or offer of reward; or

11 [(7)] (8) engage in conduct that results or has the intent to result in the
12 denial or abridgement of the right of any citizen of the United States to vote on account of
13 race, color, or disability.

14 (b) Except as provided in § 16–1002 of this title, a person who violates this section
15 is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine of not more than \$5,000 or
16 imprisonment for not more than 5 years or both.

17 (c) A person who violates this section is subject to § 5–106(b) of the Courts Article.

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
19 October 1, 2020.