

**HB0410/813622/1**

BY: Ways and Means Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 410  
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in the sponsor line, strike “**Delegate Rosenberg**” and substitute “**Delegates Rosenberg, Attar, and Cardin**”; in line 7, after “organizations;” insert “requiring each local board to submit a polling place plan to the State Board of Elections for approval by a certain time before each statewide primary election; establishing requirements and a prohibition for a polling place plan; requiring a local board to submit a revised polling place plan to the State Board if the State Board rejects a polling place plan; requiring certain local boards to submit certain information to the State Board concerning certain precincts at a certain time;”; strike beginning with “authorizing” in line 9 down through “procedures;” in line 13 and substitute “altering, in a certain year, the date of the statewide primary election and the primary election for municipal offices in Baltimore City;”; strike in their entirety lines 15 through 19, inclusive, and substitute:

“BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
Article - Election Law  
Section 1-101(a), 10-101(a)(1) and (2), and 16-1002  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)”;

in line 22, after “Section” insert “1-101(aa-1), (hh-1), and (ii-1),”; and in the same line, after “2-303(h)” insert “, and 2-303.1”.

On pages 1 and 2, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 25 on page 1 through line 6 on page 2, inclusive, and substitute:

“BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article - Election Law  
Section 2-303(a)(1) and (f) and 16-201”

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Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, after line 9, insert:

“1-101.

(a) In this article the following words have the meanings indicated unless a different meaning is clearly intended from the context.

**(AA-1) “HISTORICALLY DISENFRANCHISED COMMUNITIES” MEANS RACIAL, ETHNIC, OR SOCIOECONOMIC GROUPS THAT HAVE HISTORICALLY BEEN SUBJECT TO VOTER SUPPRESSION EFFORTS.**

**(HH-1) “POLLING PLACE” MEANS A PHYSICAL SPACE INSIDE A BUILDING WHERE IN-PERSON VOTING IS CONDUCTED ON ELECTION DAY.**

**(II-1) “PRECINCT POLLING PLACE” MEANS A POLLING PLACE DESIGNATED TO SERVE A PRECINCT.”;**

after line 10, insert:

“(a) (1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection AND § 2-303.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE, as it deems it expedient for the convenience of voters, a local board may:

(i) create and alter the boundaries for precincts in the county;

(ii) designate the location for polling places in any election district, ward, or precinct in the county; and

(iii) combine or abolish precincts.”;

in line 12, after “section,” insert “**BUT**”; and in the same line, after “to” insert “**§ 2-303.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE AND**”.

On page 3, after line 17, insert:

**“2-303.1.**

**(A) AT LEAST 6 MONTHS BEFORE EACH STATEWIDE PRIMARY ELECTION, EACH LOCAL BOARD SHALL SUBMIT A POLLING PLACE PLAN TO THE STATE BOARD FOR APPROVAL.**

**(B) A POLLING PLACE PLAN MAY NOT PROPOSE TO REDUCE THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SEPARATE BUILDINGS USED AS POLLING PLACES BY MORE THAN 5% BELOW THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SEPARATE BUILDINGS USED AS POLLING PLACES IN THE 2018 GENERAL ELECTION.**

**(C) A POLLING PLACE PLAN SHALL INCLUDE:**

**(1) A MAP SHOWING THE PRECINCT BOUNDARIES AND THE LOCATION OF EACH POLLING PLACE TO BE USED IN THE COUNTY IN THE UPCOMING STATEWIDE PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTION;**

**(2) EVIDENCE THAT THE PLAN COMPLIES WITH § 10-101(A)(2) OF THIS ARTICLE; AND**

**(3) IF THE POLLING PLACE PLAN PROPOSES TO REDUCE THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SEPARATE BUILDINGS USED AS POLLING PLACES:**

**(I) THE ADDRESS AND A DESCRIPTION OF THE LOCATION OF EACH AFFECTED POLLING PLACE;**

(Over)

(II) DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION CONCERNING THE ELIGIBLE VOTERS IN EACH AFFECTED PRECINCT;

(III) OF THE VOTERS WHO CAST BALLOTS IN EACH AFFECTED PRECINCT IN THE THREE MOST RECENT STATEWIDE ELECTIONS:

1. THE PERCENTAGE WHO VOTED IN PERSON ON ELECTION DAY;

2. THE PERCENTAGE WHO VOTED BY MAIL; AND

3. THE NUMBER WHO REGISTERED TO VOTE ON ELECTION DAY;

(IV) THE POPULATION DENSITY OF EACH AFFECTED PRECINCT;

(V) THE PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLDS IN THE COUNTY THAT HAVE NO VEHICLE OR HAVE ONLY ONE VEHICLE, ACCORDING TO THE MOST RECENT AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE U.S. CENSUS BUREAU;

(VI) THE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS THAT VOTERS IN EACH AFFECTED PRECINCT COULD USE TO ACCESS THE POLLING PLACE THAT WOULD SERVE THE PRECINCT UNDER THE PLAN; AND

(VII) AN ANALYSIS OF THE IMPACT ON HISTORICALLY DISENFRANCHISED COMMUNITIES.

(D) THE STATE BOARD MAY APPROVE A POLLING PLACE PLAN ONLY IF THE POLLING PLACE PLAN:

(1) COMPLIES WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION AND § 10-101(A)(2) OF THIS ARTICLE; AND

(2) WILL NOT NEGATIVELY AFFECT ACCESS TO VOTING FOR HISTORICALLY DISENFRANCHISED COMMUNITIES.

(E) (1) THE STATE BOARD SHALL REJECT A POLLING PLACE PLAN THAT DOES NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION.

(2) IF THE STATE BOARD REJECTS A POLLING PLACE PLAN, THE LOCAL BOARD SHALL SUBMIT A REVISED POLLING PLACE PLAN TO THE STATE BOARD WITHIN 15 DAYS AFTER THE DATE ON WHICH THE STATE BOARD REJECTED THE PREVIOUS PLAN.

10-101.

(a) (1) Each local board shall designate a polling place that meets the requirements of this subsection for each precinct in the county as established by the local board in accordance with Title 2 of this article.

(2) Each polling place shall:

(i) provide an environment that is suitable to the proper conduct of an election;

(ii) be located as conveniently as practicable for the majority of registered voters assigned to that polling place;

(iii) except as authorized in paragraph (4) of this subsection, be in a public building;

(Over)

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(iv) be in the precinct that it serves unless no suitable location for a polling place can be found within that precinct, in which case the board may establish the polling place in an adjacent precinct; and

(v) whenever practicable, be selected and arranged to avoid architectural and other barriers that impede access or voting by elderly and physically disabled voters.”.

**AMENDMENT NO. 3**

On pages 4 through 6, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 20 on page 4 through line 6 on page 6, inclusive, and substitute:

“SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) This section applies only to a local board that used a total number of separate buildings as polling places in the 2022 statewide primary or general election that was less than the total number of separate buildings the local board used as polling places in the 2018 general election.

(b) For each precinct that in the 2018 general election was served by a polling place located within the precinct boundaries but that in the 2022 primary or general election was not served by a polling place located within the precinct boundaries, each local board shall submit to the State Board, at the same time that the local board submits its polling place plan for the 2024 primary and general elections under § 2–303.1 of the Election Law Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act:

(1) all the information required under § 2–303.1(c)(3) of the Election Law Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act; and

(2) evidence that the requirements of § 10–101(a)(2) of the Election Law Article were met.

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SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, notwithstanding § 8–201 of the Election Law Article, in 2024, the statewide primary election and the primary election for municipal offices in Baltimore City shall be held on the second Tuesday in May.

On page 6, in line 7, strike “2.” and substitute “4.”; and in line 8, strike “October” and substitute “June”.