

HOUSE BILL 287

G1

5lr1644

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegate Harris**

Requested: November 1, 2024

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2025

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Party and Elected Public Offices – Prohibition**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the application of provisions of law that prohibit an individual
4 from simultaneously being a candidate for more than one public office or office of a
5 political party; prohibiting individuals from simultaneously holding a party office
6 and an elected public office; and generally relating to simultaneous candidacy for
7 and incumbency in more than one office.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
9 Article – Election Law
10 Section 1–101(a), (l–1), and (hh) and 8–501(a)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article – Election Law
15 Section 5–204
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

Article – Election Law

20 1–101.

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (l-1) (1) “Central committee” means a political committee for a political party
2 established under Title 4 of this article.

3 (2) “Central committee” includes a political committee for a political party
4 that engages in campaign finance activity that is subject to Title 13 of this article.

5 (hh) “Political party” means an organized group that is qualified as a political party
6 in accordance with Title 4 of this article.

7 5–204.

8 (A) IN THIS SECTION, “PARTY OFFICE” MEANS THE OFFICE OF A MEMBER OF
9 A COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF A POLITICAL PARTY.

10 (B) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO
11 SIMULTANEOUSLY HOLDS AN ELECTED PUBLIC OFFICE AND HOLDS THE OFFICE OF
12 DELEGATE TO THE NATIONAL PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATING CONVENTION.

13 [(a)] (C) An individual simultaneously may not be a candidate for more than one
14 ELECTED public office.

15 [(b)] (D) An individual simultaneously may not be a candidate for more than one
16 PARTY office [of a political party].

17 [(c)] (E) Unless otherwise prohibited by rule of the applicable political party, an
18 individual simultaneously may be a candidate for a party office and [a] AN ELECTED public
19 office.

20 (F) AN INDIVIDUAL SIMULTANEOUSLY MAY NOT HOLD A PARTY OFFICE AND
21 AN ELECTED PUBLIC OFFICE.

22 8–501.

23 (a) Delegates and alternate delegates to the national presidential nominating
24 convention of a political party shall be selected as provided in the national party rules of
25 the party.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
27 October 1, 2025.