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By: Chair, Ways and Means Committee (By Request - Departmental - State Board of Elections)

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2019

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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A BILL ENTITLED

T	AN ACT concerning		

Election Law - Voter Registration Deadlines and Security of Voter Registration Information

- 4 FOR the purpose of altering the period during which voter registration is closed before an 5 election; requiring the State Board of Elections to adopt regulations that describe 6 the best practices for storage and security of voter registration information received 7 by certain persons; requiring certain persons who receive voter registration 8 information to notify the State Administrator of Elections as soon as possible but not 9 later than a certain number of days after becoming aware of a breach in the secure 10 storage of the voter registration information; providing that certain persons who fail to report a breach in the secure storage of voter registration information in 11 12 accordance with a certain provision of this Act are guilty of a misdemeanor and are subject to certain penalties on conviction; and generally relating to voter registration 13 deadlines and the security of voter registration information. 14
- 15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 16 Article Election Law
- 17 Section 3–302 and 3–506
- 18 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 19 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)
- 20 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
- 21 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 22 Article Election Law
- 23 3–302.
- 24 (a) (1) Except as provided under § 3–305 of this subtitle, registration is closed

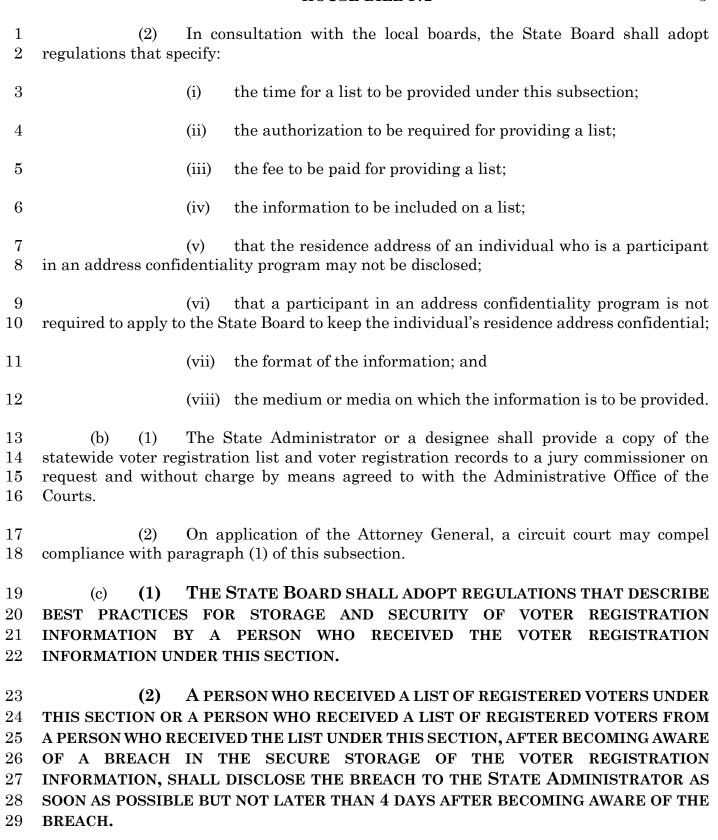


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1 beginning at 9 p.m. on the 21st day preceding an election until the 11th day after that 2 election DURING THE PERIOD SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION. 3 **(2)** Voter registration closes beginning on the 21st day 4 PRECEDING AN ELECTION AT: 5 **(I)** 5 P.M. FOR APPLICATIONS AND CHANGES TO VOTER 6 REGISTRATION RECORDS SUBMITTED BY A METHOD OTHER THAN THROUGH THE 7 STATE BOARD'S ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM: AND 8 11:59 P.M. FOR APPLICATIONS AND CHANGES TO VOTER (II) REGISTRATION RECORDS SUBMITTED THROUGH THE STATE BOARD'S ONLINE 9 10 VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM. 11 **(3)** VOTER REGISTRATION REOPENS ON THE 11TH DAY AFTER AN 12 ELECTION. 13 A voter registration application received when registration is closed shall be accepted and retained by a local board, but the registration of the applicant does not become 14 effective until registration reopens. 15 16 A voter registration application that is received by the local board after the 17 close of registration shall be considered timely received for the next election provided: 18 there is sufficient evidence, as determined by the local board pursuant 19 to regulations adopted by the State Board, that the application was mailed on or before 20 registration was closed for that election; or 21the application was submitted by the voter to the Motor Vehicle 22Administration, a voter registration agency, another local board, or the State Board prior 23 to the close of registration. 243-506.25A copy of a list of registered voters shall be provided to a Maryland (a) (1) 26 registered voter on receipt of: 27 (i) a written application; and 28 a statement, signed under oath, that the list is not intended to be (ii) used for: 2930 1. commercial solicitation; or

any other purpose not related to the electoral process.

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(D) (1) A person who knowingly allows a list of registered voters, under the person's control, to be used for any purpose not related to the electoral process is guilty of a misdemeanor and, on conviction, is subject to the penalties under Title 16 of this article.

- 1 (2) A PERSON WHO FAILS TO REPORT A BREACH IN THE SECURE STORAGE OF VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (C)(2) OF THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND, ON CONVICTION, IS SUBJECT TO A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$25,000 OR IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 1 YEAR OR BOTH.
- 6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 7 October 1, 2019.