

SENATE BILL 331

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EMERGENCY BILL

6lr2499

By: **Senator Conway**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2016

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Early Voting – Registered Voter Updating the Voter’s Address on**
3 **an Existing Registration**

4 FOR the purpose of altering a certain provision of the election law concerning a registered
5 voter updating the voter’s address during early voting to conform to other provisions
6 of the election law applicable to a registered voter updating the voter’s address and
7 voting; repealing the requirement that a registered voter updating the voter’s
8 address on an existing registration during early voting must provide proof of
9 residency; making this Act an emergency measure; and generally relating to a
10 registered voter updating the voter’s address on an existing registration during early
11 voting.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – Election Law
14 Section 3–305
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Election Law**

20 3–305.

21 (a) During early voting, an individual may appear in person at an early voting
22 center in the individual’s county of residence and apply to register to vote or change the
23 voter’s address on an existing voter registration.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) (1) When applying to register to vote [or change an address on an existing
2 registration] during early voting, the applicant shall provide proof of residency.

3 (2) The applicant shall prove residency by showing the election judge:

4 (i) a Maryland driver's license or Maryland identification card that
5 contains the applicant's current address; or

6 (ii) if the applicant does not have a driver's license or identification
7 card that contains the applicant's current address, a copy of an official document that:

8 1. meets the requirements established by the State Board;
9 and

10 2. contains the applicant's name and current address.

11 (c) (1) When an individual applies to register to vote at an early voting center,
12 the election judge shall determine whether the applicant resides in the county in which the
13 applicant applied and is qualified to become a registered voter.

14 (2) If the voter is a resident of the county and is qualified to register to vote,
15 the election judge shall:

16 (i) issue the voter a voter authority card;

17 (ii) have the voter sign the voter authority card; and

18 (iii) issue the voter a ballot.

19 (d) (1) When a voter applies to change the voter's address during early voting,
20 the election judge shall determine whether the voter resides in the county in which the
21 voter seeks to vote.

22 (2) If the voter is a resident of the county, the election judge shall:

23 (i) issue the voter a voter authority card;

24 (ii) have the voter sign the voter authority card; and

25 (iii) issue the voter the appropriate ballot for the voter's new address.

26 (e) The State Board shall adopt regulations and procedures in accordance with
27 the requirements of this section for the administration of voter registration during early
28 voting.

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency
30 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has

1 been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to
2 each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is
3 enacted.