

SENATE BILL 271

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(PRE-FILED)

4lr0385
CF HB 14

By: **Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee (By Request – Departmental – State Board of Elections)**

Requested: September 15, 2023

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2024

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 13, 2024

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Revisions**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the information that clerks of the circuit court for each county
4 and administrative clerks for each District Court are required to report to the State
5 Administrator of Elections; altering the information that the State Administrator is
6 required to make arrangements to obtain from the clerk of the United States District
7 Court for the District of Maryland; requiring a public official responsible for the use
8 of a public building requested by a local board of elections for an early voting center
9 to make the building available to the local board in accordance with a certain
10 provision of law; requiring each local board to establish an appeals process regarding
11 certain requests to use public buildings as early voting centers; authorizing an
12 incumbent member of a political party central committee who is a candidate for party
13 office to act as any responsible officer, rather than only the treasurer, of that central
14 committee; and generally relating to election law.

15 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
16 Article – Election Law
17 Section 3–504(a)(1)(i) and 13–215(b)(1)
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

20 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
21 Article – Election Law

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



Section 3–504(a)(1)(iii) and (2), 10–301.1(e), and 13–215(b)(2)(i)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

Article – Election Law

3–504.

(a) (1) (i) Information from the agencies specified in this paragraph shall
be reported to the State Administrator in a format and at times prescribed by the State
Board.

(iii) ~~The~~ **EACH MONTH, THE** clerk of the circuit court for each county
and the administrative clerk for each District Court shall report the names and addresses
of all individuals convicted, in the respective court, of a felony ~~AND CURRENTLY SERVING~~
~~A COURT ORDERED SENTENCE OF IMPRISONMENT FOR THE CONVICTION~~ since the
~~date of the last report~~ **SENTENCED TO IMPRISONMENT WITH COMMITMENT PAPERS.**

(2) The State Administrator shall make arrangements with the clerk of the
United States District Court for the District of Maryland to receive reports of names and
addresses, if available, of individuals convicted of a felony in that court ~~AND CURRENTLY~~
~~SERVING A COURT ORDERED SENTENCE OF IMPRISONMENT FOR THE CONVICTION~~
SENTENCED TO IMPRISONMENT WITH COMMITMENT PAPERS.

10–301.1.

(e) (1) Each early voting center shall satisfy the requirements of § 10–101 of
this title.

(2) ~~THE~~ **SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE**
PUBLIC OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR THE USE OF A PUBLIC BUILDING REQUESTED
BY A LOCAL BOARD FOR AN EARLY VOTING CENTER SHALL MAKE THE PUBLIC
BUILDING AVAILABLE TO THE LOCAL BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 10–101(A)(3)
OF THIS TITLE.

(3) (1) **EACH LOCAL BOARD SHALL ESTABLISH AN APPEALS**
PROCESS FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR PUBLIC BUILDINGS
REQUESTED FOR USE UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION TO CONTEST THE
AVAILABILITY OF THE PUBLIC BUILDING DURING THE PERIOD OF TIME THE
BUILDING WOULD BE USED AS AN EARLY VOTING CENTER.

(II) AN APPEALS PROCESS ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL:

1. REQUIRE A PUBLIC OFFICIAL TO FILE AN APPEAL WITHIN 14 DAYS AFTER RECEIVING NOTICE FROM THE LOCAL BOARD OF THE REQUEST TO MAKE THE PUBLIC BUILDING AVAILABLE AS AN EARLY VOTING CENTER;

2. ALLOW THE PUBLIC OFFICIAL AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD PUBLICLY BEFORE THE LOCAL BOARD; AND

3. CONCLUDE THE APPEALS PROCESS AT LEAST 8 MONTHS BEFORE A LOCAL BOARD IS REQUIRED TO SUBMIT THE LOCATIONS OF ITS EARLY VOTING CENTERS TO THE STATE BOARD.

13–215.

(b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, a candidate may not act:

(i) as the treasurer of a campaign finance entity of the candidate; or

(ii) with respect to any other campaign finance entity:

1. as the campaign manager or treasurer; or

2. in any other position that exercises general overall responsibility for the conduct of the entity.

(2) (i) An incumbent member of a central committee who is a candidate for election to party office may act as [the treasurer] **A RESPONSIBLE OFFICER** of that central committee.

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