

Chapter 430

(Senate Bill 271)

AN ACT concerning

Election Law – Revisions

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

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Election Law

Section 3–504(a)(1)(i) and 13–215(b)(1)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Election Law

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) (I) ~~EACH LOCAL BOARD~~ THE STATE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS THAT 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~~ THE APPEALS PROCESS ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL INCLUDE:

~~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.~~

1. AN INITIAL APPEAL TO THE LOCAL BOARD THAT SELECTED THE PUBLIC BUILDING FOR USE AS AN EARLY VOTING CENTER;

2. AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A PUBLIC OFFICIAL TO BE HEARD PUBLICLY AT A MEETING OF THE LOCAL BOARD BEFORE THE LOCAL BOARD MAKES A DECISION ON THE APPEAL;

3. AN APPEAL BY A PUBLIC OFFICIAL OF AN ADVERSE DECISION OF THE LOCAL BOARD TO THE STATE BOARD;

4. AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A PUBLIC OFFICIAL TO BE HEARD PUBLICLY AT A MEETING OF THE STATE BOARD BEFORE THE STATE BOARD MAKES A FINAL DECISION ON THE APPEAL; AND

5. A FINAL DECISION AT LEAST 8 MONTHS BEFORE THE PRIMARY ELECTION FOR WHICH THE LOCAL BOARD SEEKS TO USE THE PUBLIC BUILDING AS AN EARLY VOTING CENTER.

(III) THE DECISION OF THE STATE BOARD REGARDING AN APPEAL UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH IS FINAL.

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.

Approved by the Governor, May 9, 2024.