

CHAPTER 198.

(Senate Bill 230)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact with amendments Sections 304, 306 and 308 of Article 33 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "Elections", sub-title "Voting by Mail", relating to voting by mail of qualified voters in the military or naval service of the United States.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Sections 304, 306 and 308 of Article 33 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "Elections", sub-title "Voting by Mail", be and they are hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments to read as follows:

304. Whenever, in time of peace or war, the Maryland National Guard, or any of the units thereof, the Maryland Naval Militia, or any of the units thereof, or any units of the armed forces of the United States, shall be called into active service, or citizens of this State shall be inducted into the armed forces of the United States under any Federal conscription laws, and by reason of such circumstances, duly qualified voters of the State are absent from the ward or election district in which they reside on the day set for any general, primary or special election, whether Presidential, Congressional, Judicial, State, County or Legislative District or any election in Baltimore City, the Governor may, by proclamation, published once in no more than three newspapers in each county and in Baltimore City, suspend the operation of the election laws of the State and all rules and regulations adopted thereunder, so far as such laws and rules and regulations are inconsistent with the provisions of this sub-title.

306. Any person duly qualified to vote at any election held after the issuance of the proclamation or hereinbefore provided for, whether general primary or special, and whether Presidential, Congressional, judicial, State, County or Legislative District or any election in Baltimore City, who is absent in the military or naval service of the United States, or the State of Maryland, from the ward or election district in which he is entitled to vote, on the day such election is held, and whose absence is directly attributable to the circumstances causing the issuance of the proclamation aforesaid, may vote as hereinafter provided.