

any municipal primary election, as provided for in Section 239 of this Article, shall be given the right and every possibility to register and vote by mail in any such municipal primary election, to the fullest extent permitted by the Constitution of this State.

239B. For the purposes of this sub-title, and unless otherwise required by the context—

1. An absentee resident means a resident of the City of Baltimore, State of Maryland, qualified to vote under the Constitution and laws of the State of Maryland, and the Charter of the City of Baltimore, as to age, party affiliation, citizenship and length of residence in the said City, and not disfranchised because of crime, and who is absent or engaged in the military or naval service of the United States, or home temporarily on a leave of absence from the said armed forces, but who shall be under duty to return to the said armed forces before the day and date of said election; and who, because of such absence, is unable either to qualify or to vote in person in any such election, as herein defined, in the war or election district of the City of Baltimore.

(a) All such absentee residents who are members of any branch of the armed forces of the United States and of any of their respective components;

(b) All such absentee residents who are members of the Merchant Marine of the United States, and who are hereby defined to be persons who are employed as officers or members of crews of vessels documented under the laws of the United States and persons enrolled for such employment with the War Shipping Administration, exclusive, however, of those in the service or enrolled for service on the Great Lakes or the inland waterways of the United States;

(c) All such absentee residents who are serving with the American Red Cross, the Society of Friends, the Women's Auxiliary Service Pilots and the United Service Organizations who are attached to or serving with the armed forces of the United States outside of the United States;

(d) All such absentee residents who have been honorably discharged from the armed forces of the United States too late to register or vote as required, except for the provisions of this sub-title.

For all purposes of this sub-title, an Absentee Resident shall be deemed and held to have resided continuously in the ward or election district in which he resided at the time he first left to become absent and engaged in the military or naval service of the United States, as herein