

tions", sub-title "Servicemen's Absentee Voting", to amend the definition of the term "absentee resident" for the purposes of the State Servicemen's Absentee Voting Law. REVISE THE SERVICEMEN'S ABSENTEE VOTING LAWS TO PERMIT SPOUSES OF SERVICEMEN AND OTHERS AND CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES OF THE UNITED STATES AND THEIR SPOUSES TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT, TO CHANGE THE TIME OF AND FORM OF APPLICATION FOR BALLOTS AND TO CHANGE THE FORM OF THE OATH ON THE ABSENTEE BALLOT.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 243 (e) SECTIONS 243(C), 244(C), 245(A) AND 249(C) of Article 33 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Elections", sub-title "Servicemen's Absentee Voting", be and it is THEY ARE hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

243.

(c) For the purpose of, and when used in, this sub-title, the phrase "absent and engaged in the military or naval service of the United States," shall be deemed to include [and apply to persons in the armed forces of the United States and also to persons engaged in the work or services, or who are members of the organizations herein specified as limited in such specifications; and for such purposes and as so used, the term "absentee resident" shall include] the following:

(1) 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, *and their spouses and dependents;*

(2) All such absentee residents who are members of the Merchant Marine of the United States, *and their spouses and dependents,* [and who] *which members* 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;

(3) *All such absentee residents who are civilian employees of the United States in all categories and who are serving outside of the United States, and their spouses and dependents who are residing with or accompanying them, whether or not any such employee is subject to the civil-service laws of the United States and whether or not he is paid from funds appropriated by Congress;*

[(3)] (4) 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, *and their spouses and dependents;*

[(4)] (5) 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 subtitle.