

require that employees be given paid time off to vote on election day by employers only where the time off is required in order to vote.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 24-26(a) of Article 33 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1967 Supplement), title "Election Code," subtitle "Offenses and Penalties" be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

24-26.

(a) At every election hereafter held in this State, every employer, whether a body corporate, firm or individual, shall allow any employee who is a registered voter in the State a period ~~of at least~~ NOT TO EXCEED two hours absence from work on election day, IF THE EMPLOYEE DOES NOT HAVE TWO HOURS OF CONTINUOUS OFF-DUTY DURING THE TIME THE POLLS ARE OPEN, *if necessary*, with pay, to vote, and the employee shall furnish to the employer proof that he has voted. For failure thereof, the employer shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall for each and every offense pay a fine not exceeding the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500) or be imprisoned in jail for a period not exceeding six months, or both, in the discretion of the court. Upon request, the judges OF ELECTION shall furnish to the employee a receipt indicating such proof as required above.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1968.

Approved May 7, 1968.

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CHAPTER 615

(House Bill 8)

AN ACT to repeal Sections 28-9 and 28-10 of Article 33 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1967 Supplement), title "Election Code," subtitle "Uniform Act for Voting by Nonresidents in Presidential Elections," to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Sections 2-7(f), 3-4(b), 3-7(b), 4A-2(d), 4A-3, 5-1, 7-1(b), 8-5(a), 9-1(a), 9-2(a), 9-5, 11-2(f), 14-1(b), (k) and (n), 15-3(a) and (f), 15-4(a), 16-16(b)(2), 17-3(a), 17-5(c), 28-2, 28-3 and 28-7(b) of the said Article of the Code, subtitles respectively "Election Boards and Employees," "Registration of Voters—General Provisions," "Certificate of Candidacy," "Primary Elections," "Nomination by Petition," "Certificates of Nomination," "Vacancies in Nominations—In General," "Vacancies in Nominations—Vacancy Caused by Death," "Party Governing Bodies," "Paper Ballots," "General Provisions for Voting," "Voting Machines," "Board of Canvassers," and "Uniform Act for Voting by Nonresidents in Presidential Elections," to amend the 1967 Election Code to correct certain errors therein and to make miscellaneous changes in several provisions of the election law of the State.