

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)] \$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.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 27-1 of Article 33 - Election Code, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume and 1975 Supplement) be and it is hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That new Section 27-1 be and it is hereby added to Article 33 - Election Code, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume and 1975 Supplement) to read as follows:

#### Article 33 - Election Code

27-1.

(A) ANY EMPLOYEE OF THE STATE BOARD ~~[[OF]]~~ OR A BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ELECTIONS, INCLUDING ANY JUDGE APPOINTED UNDER SECTION 2-7 OF THIS ARTICLE WHO, AS A CONDITION OF HIS EMPLOYMENT ON ANY ELECTION DAY, IS REQUIRED TO BE ABSENT FROM THE ELECTION DISTRICT, WARD, OR PRECINCT IN WHICH HE IS REGISTERED TO VOTE WHO CHOOSES TO VOTE SHALL CAST HIS VOTE BY AN ABSENTEE BALLOT PROVIDED BY THE BOARD.

(B) ANY QUALIFIED VOTER WHO MAY BE ~~[[UNAVOIDABLY]]~~ ABSENT FOR ANY REASON FROM THE COUNTY OR BALTIMORE CITY WHERE HE IS REGISTERED TO VOTE ON ANY ELECTION DAY AND ANY QUALIFIED PERSON AS DEFINED IN SECTION 27-2 OF THIS ARTICLE MAY VOTE AS AN ABSENTEE VOTER UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 27-2(a-1) of Article 33 - Election Code, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume and 1975 Supplement) be and it is hereby repealed and reenacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

#### Article 33 - Election Code

27-2.

(a-1) Within seven [(7)] days of an election and on the day of the election prior to the time the polls close, any person registered and otherwise qualified to vote may apply for an emergency absentee ballot if, he is notified after the time for making application for an absentee ballot that, as a condition of his employment, he is required to be absent from the county or Baltimore City where he is registered to vote on the day of an