

hallways except as to a building owned and occupied by a bona fide volunteer fire company, service club, veterans organization or fraternal organization in Allegany County.

(2) In Baltimore City public buildings shall be used for polling places to the greatest extent feasible. For rental of privately owned polling places in Baltimore City the board of supervisors shall pay an amount as determined from time to time in the ordinance of estimates, provided that such amount shall be uniform on a citywide basis.

(3) EVERY POLLING PLACE, TO THE EXTENT FEASIBLE, SHALL BE STRUCTURALLY BARRIER FREE IN ORDER TO PERMIT EASY REASONABLE ACCESS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF VOTING, TO PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED VOTERS. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED VOTER" MEANS ANY VOTER WHO HAS TEMPORARILY OR PERMANENTLY LOST THE USE OF A LEG OR BOTH LEGS OR A FOOT OR BOTH FEET OR ANY COMBINATION; WHO IS SO SEVERELY DISABLED AS TO BE UNABLE TO MOVE WITHOUT THE AID OF BRACES, CANES, CRUTCHES OR A WHEELCHAIR; WHOSE MOBILITY IS SIGNIFICANTLY IMPAIRED BY REASON OF HEART OR LUNG DISEASE; WHO SUFFERS FROM HEMOPHILIA; OR WHO IS BLIND OR WHOSE VISION IS SUBSTANTIALLY IMPAIRED.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That new Section 3-21A be and it is hereby added to Article 33 - Election Code, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1976 Replacement Volume and 1976 Supplement) to read as follows:

Article 33 - Election Code

3-21A.

(A) IF THE BOARD DETERMINES THAT A PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED VOTER IS QUALIFIED, IT SHALL ASSIGN THE VOTER TO AN ELECTION DISTRICT, WARD, OR PRECINCT WHOSE POLLING PLACE IS STRUCTURALLY BARRIER FREE IN ORDER TO PERMIT EASY REASONABLE ACCESS FOR THE VOTER IF THE VOTER'S OWN POLLING PLACE IS NOT SO DESIGNED. A PERSON WHO HAS QUALIFIED AS A PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED VOTER ENTITLED TO VOTE AT AN ALTERNATE POLLING PLACE SHALL BE REGARDED AS A VOTER WHO IS UNABLE TO VOTE PERSONALLY AT HIS OWN POLLING PLACE. IN ORDER TO QUALIFY FOR ASSIGNMENT TO AN ALTERNATE POLLING PLACE, THE VOTER SHALL APPLY FOR A CHANGE IN POLLING PLACE ON A FORM PRESCRIBED BY THE STATE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD OF ELECTION LAWS NO LATER THAN THE CLOSING OF REGISTRATION FOR ANY ELECTION. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED VOTER" MEANS ANY VOTER WHO HAS TEMPORARILY OR PERMANENTLY LOST THE USE OF A LEG OR BOTH LEGS OR A FOOT OR BOTH FEET OR ANY COMBINATION; WHO IS SO SEVERELY DISABLED AS TO BE UNABLE TO MOVE WITHOUT THE AID OF BRACES, CANES, CRUTCHES OR A WHEELCHAIR; WHOSE MOBILITY IS SIGNIFICANTLY IMPAIRED BY REASON OF HEART OR LUNG DISEASE; WHO SUFFERS FROM