

CHAPTER 5
(Senate Bill 478)

AN ACT concerning

Election Law – Early Voting

FOR the purpose of establishing a process to allow voters to vote in elections at early voting polling places in the State; specifying the period in which early voting is allowed; ~~specifying criteria and procedures to guide the State Administrator of Elections in setting the number and location of early voting polling places for each election; granting authority to certain entities to select early voting polling places; establishing that each local board of elections has the final authority to select the geographic locations for certain early voting polling places; requiring the local boards of elections to establish the early voting polling places in each county; requiring the local boards in certain counties to establish at least a certain number of early voting polling places for each primary or general election; requiring the Governor to allocate certain resources to implement this Act; requiring the State Board of Elections to adopt certain regulations and guidelines by a certain date; making certain provisions of law applicable to early voting; and generally relating to early voting in elections in the State.~~

BY adding to

Article – Election Law
Section 10–301.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2003 Volume and 2004 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Election Law

10–301.1.

(A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED UNDER TITLE 9, SUBTITLE 3 OF THIS ARTICLE, A VOTER SHALL VOTE:

- (1) IN THE VOTER'S ASSIGNED PRECINCT ON ELECTION DAY; OR
- (2) IN AN EARLY VOTING POLLING PLACE AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION.

(B) EACH EARLY VOTING POLLING PLACE SHALL BE OPEN FOR VOTING:

- (1) BEGINNING THE ~~EIGHTH DAY~~ TUESDAY BEFORE A PRIMARY OR GENERAL ELECTION THROUGH THE ~~FRIDAY~~ SATURDAY BEFORE THE ELECTION; AND
- (2) 8 HOURS EACH DAY DURING THE PERIOD SPECIFIED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, ~~INCLUDING EACH SATURDAY AND SUNDAY.~~