

**CHAPTER 586**

**(Senate Bill 121)**

AN ACT concerning

**Election Law - Close of Registration**

FOR the purpose of shortening the period of time prior to an election during which an individual may not become a registered voter; providing for the staggered implementation of the shortened period; providing for a delayed effective date; and generally relating to voter registration.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 33 - Election Code

Section 3-302(a)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1997 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

~~(As enacted by Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ (S.B. \_\_\_\_\_/H.B. \_\_\_\_\_)(81r0487) of the Acts of the~~

(As enacted by Chapter 585 (S.B. 118/H.B. 127) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1998)

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

**Article 33 - Election Code**

3-302.

(a) (1) Registration is closed between 9 p.m. on the 5th Monday preceding any primary election, special primary election, general election, or special election and the 11th day after that election.

(2) BEGINNING WITH THE PRIMARY ELECTION IN 2000, AND FOR ANY SUBSEQUENT ELECTION PRIOR TO THE PRIMARY ELECTION IN 2002, REGISTRATION IS CLOSED BEGINNING AT 9 P.M. ON THE 24TH DAY PRECEDING THE ELECTION UNTIL THE 11TH DAY AFTER THAT ELECTION.

(3) BEGINNING WITH THE PRIMARY ELECTION IN 2002, AND FOR ANY SUBSEQUENT ELECTION, REGISTRATION IS CLOSED BEGINNING AT 9 P.M. ON THE 21ST DAY PRECEDING AN ELECTION UNTIL THE 11TH DAY AFTER THAT ELECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect January 1, 1999.

Approved May 21, 1998.