

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article - Election Law
Section 5-303, 5-703, 8-202, 8-710, and 8-711
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2003 Volume and 2007 Supplement)

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

Article - Election Law

5-303.

(a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section, a certificate of candidacy shall be filed not later than 9 p.m. on the Monday that is 10 weeks or 70 days before the day on which the primary election will be held.

(b) A certificate of candidacy for an office to be filled by a special election under this article shall be received and filed in the office of the appropriate board not later than 5 p.m. on the Monday that is 3 weeks or 21 days prior to the date for the special primary election specified by the Governor in the proclamation for the special primary election, OR IF THERE IS ONLY A SPECIAL GENERAL ELECTION, ON THE DATE SPECIFIED BY THE GOVERNOR IN THE PROCLAMATION FOR THE SPECIAL GENERAL ELECTION.

(c) The certificate of candidacy for the election of a write-in candidate shall be filed by the earlier of:

(1) 7 days after a total expenditure of at least \$51 is made to promote the candidacy by a campaign finance entity of the candidate; or

(2) 5 p.m. on the Wednesday preceding the day of the election for which the certificate is filed.

5-703.

(a) Except for a candidate for a nonpartisan county board of education, this section applies to any candidate for public office subject to this title.

(b) A candidate for a public office may be nominated by petition under this subtitle if the candidate is not affiliated with any political party.

(c) (1) A candidate for public office who seeks nomination by petition shall file a declaration of intent to seek nomination by petition.