

House Bills Legislative Session 2025 (introduced as of 01/30/2025)

Bill Number	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status
HB0041 Pre-Filed Bill Cross-filed with SB0267	Title: Election Law - Petitions for the Formation of a New Political Party – Process Altering the time periods during which a petition for the formation of a new political party or additional signatures to a petition may not be filed; and prohibiting signatures submitted with a petition that was officially determined as not meeting certain legal requirements from being resubmitted with a subsequent petition.	Chair, Ways and Means Committee (By Request – Departmental – State Board of Elections)	In the House - Hearing 1/21 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): July 1, 2025 By Request of the Governor
HB0044 Pre-Filed Bill	Title: Election Law - Circuit Court Judges - Nonpartisan Elections Requiring circuit court judges to be elected on a nonpartisan basis; prohibiting a candidate for circuit court judge from being nominated by a political party or by petition; and requiring candidates to be nominated at the primary election in each year that one or more circuit court judges are to be elected.	Delegate Wu	In the House - First Reading Judiciary and Ways and Means Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
HB0052 Pre-Filed Bill Introduced in a prior session as HB0373 2024 Regular Session	Title: Election Law - Voting Age - Board of Education Elections (Your School, Your Voice Act) Authorizing the General Assembly to provide by suitable enactment the authority of a county to lower the age at which an individual may vote in an election for members of an elected county board of education; authorizing a county to enact a local law that allows an individual who is at least 16 years old to vote in an election for members of an elected county board of education; submitting the amendment to the Maryland Constitution to the qualified voters of the State for adoption or rejection; etc.	Delegate Vogel	In the House - Hearing 1/21 at 1:00 p.m. Contingency - on enactment of a constitutional amendment and on a referendum

HB0067 Pre-Filed Bill Introduced in a prior session as HB0202 2024 Regular Session	Title: Election Law - Absentee Ballots - Signature Requirements and Verification Prohibiting a local board of elections from removing an absentee ballot from a return envelope or ballot/return envelope or counting the ballot unless the return envelope or ballot/return envelope is signed by the voter and, except under certain circumstances, a witness and the local board verify the voter's signature; and providing that the witness signature requirement does not apply to active duty uniformed services members serving overseas or their spouses or dependents who live overseas.	Delegates R. Long , Arentz , Beauchamp , Chisholm , Grammer , Hartman , Hornberger , Miller , T. Morgan , Rose , and Tomlinson	In the House - Hearing 1/28 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
HB0074 Pre-Filed Bill	Title: Legal Advertisement or Legal Notice - Publication in Newspaper or Newspaper in General Circulation - Digital Newspapers Establishing certain requirements for the print or digital publication of legal advertisements and notices in counties and municipalities in the State; requiring digital publications that publish a legal advertisement or notice to maintain a certain digital archive that shall be available to the public; and requiring digital publications that publish a legal advertisement or notice to employ at least one employee whose duties include reporting, writing, or editing local news and information.	Delegate Foley	In the House - First Reading Judiciary Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
HB0075 Pre-Filed Bill Emergency Bill Cross-Filed with SB0262	Title: Election Law – Special Elections Altering requirements for scheduling special elections to fill vacancies in a county council or in the office of chief executive officer or county executive; authorizing the resolution of a county council establishing the date of a special election to fill a vacancy in the county council or in the office of chief executive officer or county executive to direct that a special primary election not be held and that the vacancy be filled solely through a special general election; etc.	Chair, Ways and Means Committee (By Request - Departmental - State Board of Elections)	In the House - Hearing 1/28 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): Upon Enactment
HB0091 Pre-Filed Bill Introduced in a prior session as HB0192 2024 Regular Session	Title: Elections - In-Person Voting - Proof of Identity Requiring an election judge to establish a voter's identity by requiring the voter to present a valid government-issued photo identification or a valid nongovernment-issued photo identification, and a current bill, statement, or check that states the voter's name and address as proof of identity; requiring a voter to vote a provisional ballot if the voter is unable to provide certain proof of identity; and prohibiting a person from knowingly and willfully voting or attempting to vote under a false form of identification.	Delegates R. Long , Arentz , Chisholm , Grammer , Hartman , Miller , T. Morgan , Nawrocki , Rose , Schmidt , Szeliga , and Tomlinson	In the House - Hearing 1/28 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025

HB0096 Pre-Filed Bill	Title: General Assembly - Membership, Election Timing for State Senators, and Eligibility Altering the membership of the Senate and House of Delegates beginning with the 2033 legislative session; altering the method and timing of the election of State Senators; requiring a Delegate who seeks election for a certain Senate term to vacate the seat of Delegate on the first day of the next immediately following legislative session; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the State of Maryland for their adoption or rejection.	Delegate Bouchat	In the House - First Reading House Rules and Executive Nominations Contingency - on a referendum
HB0111 Pre-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with SB0027	Title: Election Law - Campaign Finance - Exploratory Committees Applying certain campaign finance requirements for a political committee to exploratory committees; establishing requirements and prohibitions for exploratory committees relating to the establishment of the committees, receipt of funds, and permissible disbursements; requiring an authorized candidate campaign committee that results from the exploratory committee to make any equipment purchases from the exploratory committee at the fair market value of the equipment; etc.	Delegates Palakovich Carr and D. Jones	In the House - Hearing 1/21 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): June 1, 2025
HB0115 Pre-Filed Bill Introduced in a prior session as HB0142 2024 Regular Session	Title: Election Law - Polling Places - Establishing Voter Identity (Voter Privacy Act of 2025) Authorizing a voter to establish the voter's identity at the request of an election judge at a polling place by presenting the voter's registration card, a valid Maryland driver's license, or any identification card that contains a photograph of the voter and is issued by a political subdivision of the State, the State, the federal government, or any unit of a political subdivision of the State, the State, or the federal government.	Delegate R. Long	In the House - Hearing 1/28 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
HB0153 Pre-Filed Bill Introduced in a prior session as HB0436 2024 Regular Session	Title: Election Law - Voter Registration - Age and Notification to Minors Altering, from 16 years old to 15 years and 9 months old, the age at which an individual may register to vote; requiring that a voter notification card sent to an individual under the age of 18 years include information regarding when the individual will be eligible to vote; and requiring the election director in the county where a registered voter under the age of 18 years becomes eligible to vote under a certain provision of law to send a certain notice to the voter.	Delegates Fair, Feldmark, Kaufman, Lehman, Palakovich Carr, Pruski, Ruth, Stewart, and Terrasa	In the House - Hearing 1/21 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
HB0174 Pre-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with SB0002	Title: General Assembly - Special Election to Fill a Vacancy in Office Proposing a constitutional amendment to require that a special election be held at the same time as the regular statewide primary and general elections that are held in the second year of the term to fill a vacancy in the office of Delegate or Senator in the General Assembly if the	Delegate Foley	In the House - Hearing 1/28 at 1:00 p.m.

Introduced in a prior session as HB0412 2024 Regular Session	vacancy occurs on or before the date that is 55 days before the deadline for filing certificates of candidacy for the regular statewide election.		Contingency - on a referendum
HB0199 Pre-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with SB0257	Title: Election Law - Notice to Permanent Absentee Voters Altering the time before an election when a certain notice is required to be sent to each voter who is on the permanent absentee ballot list; repealing a requirement that the notice be sent to each voter who is on the permanent absentee ballot list as of a certain date; and altering the action the State Board of Elections is required to take if the State Board is unable to contact a voter who is on the permanent absentee ballot list using the method of communication chosen by the voter.	Chair, Ways and Means Committee (By Request - Departmental – State Board of Elections)	In the House - Hearing 1/21 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): July 1, 2025 By Request of the Governor
HB0201 Pre-Filed Bill Cross Filed with SB0093 Introduced in a prior session as HB1489 2024 Regular Session	Title: Election Law - Absentee Ballot Application - Sending to Eligible Voters Before Primary Elections Requiring each local board of elections to send the absentee ballot application approved by the State Board of Elections to each eligible voter at least 60 days before each statewide primary election, unless the voter has permanent absentee ballot status.	Delegate Wilkins	In the House - Hearing 1/28 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
HB0203 Pre-Filed Bill Introduced in a prior session as HB0182 2024 Regular Session	Title: Districting - Single-Member Districts and Legislative and Congressional Redistricting and Apportionment Convention Requiring that each legislative district established for the purpose of electing members of the House of Delegates consist of three single-member delegate districts; requiring the General Assembly to enact a law establishing and governing a Legislative and Congressional Redistricting and Apportionment Convention to establish legislative and congressional districts and establishing certain requirements regarding the Redistricting Convention; establishing the Redistricting Convention; etc.	Delegate Bouchat	In the House - First Reading House Rules and Executive Nominations Contingency - on a referendum
HB0215 Pre-Filed Bill	Title: Elections - Ranked-Choice Voting in Contests for Presidential Nomination and Certification of Election-Supporting Technology Authorizing the State Board of Elections, beginning with the 2028 statewide primary election, to use ranked-choice voting to conduct a contest for the nomination by a political party of a	Delegates Fair, Feldmark, Kaufman, Lehman, Ruth, Stewart, and Terrasa	In the House - Hearing 1/28 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025

	candidate for the office of President of the United States; requiring the State Board to adopt regulations for the review, certification, and decertification of election-supporting technology and to periodically review and evaluate election-supporting technology; etc.		
HB0237 Pre-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with SB0171 Introduced in a prior session as SB0140 2024 Regular Session	Title: General Assembly Vacancy - Political Party Central Committees – Procedures Establishing requirements for the filling of a vacancy in the office of Senator or Delegate in the General Assembly by a central committee of a political party under the Maryland Constitution relating to applications, public notice, public meetings, and voting; and requiring a member of the central committee who has applied to fill the vacancy to recuse themselves from voting on the individual to fill the vacancy.	Delegates Palakovich Carr and Griffith	In the House - Hearing 1/21 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
HB0253 Pre-Filed Bill	Title: Election Law - Pretrial Detainees - Absentee Ballots Requiring the State Board of Elections or the local boards of elections to automatically send an absentee ballot to each registered voter in pretrial detention in a correctional facility without the voter having to submit an absentee ballot application.	Delegate Harris	In the House - Hearing 1/28 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): July 1, 2025
HB0272 Pre-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with SB0236	Title: Maryland Department of Planning – Modernization Requiring the State Administrator of Elections to submit certain information to the Secretary of Planning under certain circumstances; altering a requirement that the Department of the Environment submit certain proposals to the Department of Planning under certain circumstances; altering certain requirements related to the Department of Planning preparing certain population projections; etc.	Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee (By Request- Departmental - Planning)	In the House - Hearing 1/28 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
HB0274 Pre-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with SB0259	Title: Election Law - Local Boards of Elections - Election Plan Requirements Requiring a local board of elections to submit an election plan to the State Board of Elections for approval at least 7 months before each statewide primary election; establishing requirements related to an election plan; and altering the requirements related to polling place plans, ballot drop box plans, and early voting center plans.	Chair, Ways and Means Committee (By Request - Departmental – State Board of Elections)	In the House - Hearing 1/21 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): July 1, 2025

HB0285 Pre-Filed Bill Introduced in a prior session as HB0164 2024 Regular Session	Title: Election Law - Voter Registration List - Absentee Voters (Absentee Ballot Transparency Act of 2025) Requiring the State Board of Elections or a local board of elections, on request of a candidate, to provide the candidate with a list of registered voters who have requested an absentee ballot for an upcoming election; and requiring that the list of absentee voters provided include the e-mail address and telephone number of each voter on the list, if the information is available.	Delegate R. Long	In the House - Hearing 1/28 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
HB0287 Pre-Filed Bill	Title: Election Law - Party and Elected Public Offices – Prohibition Altering the application of provisions of law that prohibit an individual from simultaneously being a candidate for more than one public office or office of a political party; and prohibiting individuals from simultaneously holding a party office and an elected public office.	Delegate Harris	In the House - Hearing 1/21 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
HB0317 Regular Filed Bill	Title: Election Law - Curbside Voting - Pilot Program Establishing the Curbside Voting Pilot Program to test the viability of curbside voting in the State; establishing requirements governing curbside voting; and requiring the State Board to report to the General Assembly on the implementation of the Pilot Program by September 1, 2029.	Delegates Williams and Wilkins	In the House - Hearing 2/04 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
HB0322 Emergency Bill Regular-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with SB0088	Title: Election Law - State Administrator of Elections - Municipal Elections Authorizing the State Administrator of Elections to enter into memoranda of understanding with municipalities that allow the State Administrator to work collaboratively with a municipality to support the administration of the municipality's elections.	Delegate Wims	In the House - Hearing 2/04 at 1:00 p.m Effective Date(s): Upon Enactment
HB0391 Regular-Filed Bill	Title: County Boards of Education - Elections for Members Representing Specific Districts – Alterations Requiring that members of county boards of education from Calvert, Cecil, Garrett, Montgomery, Queen Anne's, St. Mary's, Somerset, Talbot, and Worcester counties that represent certain districts be elected only by the voters of that district.	Delegates J. Long and Crosby	In the House – First Reading Ways and Means
HB0412 Regular-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with SB0337	Title: Elections - Local Boards of Elections and Boards of Canvassers - Open Meeting Requirements (Local Boards of Elections Transparency Act) Requiring each local board of canvassers to make available on its website each open meeting agenda, a summary of any finalized documents, certain written testimony, and other materials on which the board will be voting; requiring each local board to provide live video	Delegate Korman	In the House - Hearing 2/04 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): June 1, 2025

HB0412 cont.	streaming of each open meeting and to maintain a complete and unedited archived video recording of each open meeting for 5 years; requiring the State Board of Elections to adopt regulations to ensure that the streaming requirements are met in a certain manner; etc.	Delegate Korman	In the House - Hearing 2/04 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): June 1, 2025
HB0426 Regular-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with SB0313 Introduced in a prior session as HB0040 2024 Regular Session	Title: Election Law - Postelection Tabulation Audits - Risk-Limiting Audits Requiring the State Board of Elections, in collaboration with the local boards of elections, to conduct a risk-limiting audit after each statewide election; authorizing the State Board, in collaboration with the local boards, to conduct a risk-limiting audit after a special general election; authorizing, rather than requiring, the State Board, in collaboration with the local boards, to conduct an automated software audit after a statewide election; etc.	Delegates Kaiser and Wilkins	In the House - Hearing 2/04 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): June 1, 2025
HB0525 Regular-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with SB0361 Introduced in a prior session as SB0978 2024 Regular Session *NEW 1/30*	Title: Election Law - Influence on a Voter's Voting Decision By Use of Fraud – Prohibition Prohibiting a person from using fraud to influence or attempt to influence a voter's voting decision; providing that fraud includes the use of synthetic media; and defining "synthetic media" as an image, an audio recording, or a video recording that has been intentionally created or manipulated with the use of generative artificial intelligence or other digital technology to create a realistic but false image, audio recording, or video recording.	Delegates Feldmark , D. Jones , Kaiser , Phillips , Ruth , Watson , Wells , and Woods	In the House - Hearing 2/04 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): June 1, 2025
HB0550 Regular-Filed Bill Introduced in a prior session as HB0769 2024 Regular Session *NEW 1/30*	Title: Local Public Campaign Financing - Expansion to Additional Offices Authorizing the governing body of a county to establish a system of public campaign financing after the governing body of the county has implemented a system of public campaign financing for elective offices in the executive or legislative branches of county government for at least one complete election cycle for the offices of State's Attorney, sheriff, register of wills, judge of the circuit court, clerk of the circuit court judge of the orphans' court, or an elected member of the county board of education.	Delegate Feldmark	In the House - Hearing 2/04 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): June 1, 2025

HB0586 Regular-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with SB0534 *NEW 1/30*	Title: Election Law - Election Judges – Compensation Requiring a local board of elections to pay an election judge compensation for completing a certain course of instruction only after the election judge actually serves an election day or early voting day; and authorizing a public school student in the State to both earn hours toward the service-learning graduation requirement and receive election judge compensation for service as an election judge.	Delegate D. Jones	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
HB0624 Regular-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with SB0323 *NEW 1/30*	Title: Election Law - Statewide Voter Registration Application - Prepaid Postage Requiring that a statewide voter registration application include a return envelope or envelope template with prepaid postage that an applicant may use to return the application to the State Board of Elections; and requiring return envelopes or envelope templates to be preprinted with the address of the State Board for purposes of returning the statewide voter registration application.	Delegate Wells	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): June 1, 2025
HB0642 Regular-Filed Bill *NEW 1/30*	Title: Election Law - Registered Voter List and Petitions (Ballot Petition Modernization Act) Requiring the State Board of Elections to adopt regulations for the secure storage and use of voter data from the list of registered voters and specifying procedures and requirements relating to electronic signatures; establishing and altering certain provisions governing the petition process, including provisions regarding the collection and invalidation of signatures, the use of electronic signatures, and attestations by petition circulators; etc.	Delegates Ruth , Ebersole , Fair , Forbes , Guyton , Harris , Jackson , Lehman , McCaskill , Pasteur , Phillips , Stein , Terrasa , and White Holland	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): July 1, 2025
HB0667 Regular-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with SB0139 *NEW 1/30*	Title: State Government - Legal and Employee Holiday - Maryland Emancipation Day Establishing November 1 as Maryland Emancipation Day and as a State legal holiday and State employee holiday; and repealing the requirement that the Governor declare a certain day as Maryland Emancipation Day.	Delegates Woods , Acevero , Addison , Alston , Bagnall , Boyce , Conaway , Crutchfield , Holmes , Ivey , Kaiser , Kaufman , R. Lewis , J. Long , Martinez , Pasteur , Phillips , Roberts , Ruff , Ruth , Simmons , Solomon , Taylor , Terrasa , Valderrama , Wells , and Williams	In the House - Hearing 3/13 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025

HB0680 Regular-Filed Bill *NEW 1/30*	Title: Municipal Elections - Voter Registration - List and Qualifications Requiring each municipality to require voter registration for its elections; and prohibiting an individual from becoming registered to vote in a municipal election if the individual is not a citizen of the United States.	Delegates Grammer , Arikan , Chisholm , Fisher , McComas , M. Morgan , Nawrocki and Szeliga	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
HB0710 Regular-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with SB0647 *NEW 1/30*	Title: Election Law - Incarcerated Individuals - Voter Hotline and Voting Eligibility (Voting Rights for All Act) Requiring the State Board of Elections to provide a certain voter hotline for incarcerated individuals; and altering the circumstances under which an individual is not qualified to be a registered voter for the purpose of allowing individuals convicted of a felony and serving a court-ordered sentence of imprisonment for the conviction to register to vote.	Delegate Wilkins	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
HB0730 Regular-Filed Bill *NEW 1/30*	Title: Election Law - Online Platforms and Qualifying Paid Digital Communications – Alterations Altering certain requirements relating to online platforms and qualifying paid digital communications; repealing certain provisions of law establishing and governing a compliance waiver; and requiring an online platform to make certain records relating to qualifying paid digital communications available for public inspection on the online platform's website rather than to provide the records to the State Board on request.	Delegate M. Morgan	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
HB0733 Regular-Filed Bill *NEW 1/30*	Title: Elections for County Boards of Education - Party Designation or Affiliation - Certificates of Candidacy and Ballots Authorizing a candidate for election to a county board of education to disclose the candidate's party designation or party affiliation on the candidate's certificate of candidacy; prohibiting a local board of elections from disqualifying a candidate for election to a county board for disclosing the candidate's party designation or party affiliation; and requiring each local board to include certain information on a ballot under certain circumstances.	Delegates Miller , Arentz , Boafo , Grammer , Hutchinson , Nawrocki , Otto , Roberson , Rose , Schmidt , Szeliga , and Valentine	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): July 1, 2025
HB0740 Regular-Filed Bill Introduced in a prior session as HB0872 2024 Regular Session	Title: Election Law - Campaign Materials - Disclosure of Use of Synthetic Media Requiring that candidates, campaign finance entities, and specified other persons, or agents of candidates, campaign finance entities, or specified other persons, that publish, distribute, or disseminate, or cause to be published, distributed, or disseminated, to another person in the State campaign materials that use or contain synthetic media include a specified disclosure in a specified manner; and defining "synthetic media" as an image, an audio recording, or a video recording that has been intentionally manipulated in a certain manner.	Delegates Kaiser , Guyton , McComas , Palakovich , Carr , Pena-Melnyk , Ruth , Schindler , Taveras , Terrasa , Tomlinson , and Turner	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025

HB0778 Regular-Filed Bill Constitutional Bill Cross Filed with SB0630 *NEW 1/30*	Title: Circuit Court Judges - Selection and Retention Elections Proposing amendments to the Maryland Constitution relating to the selection and tenure of circuit court judges; altering the method of filling vacancies in the office of a judge of a circuit court; providing for retention elections following an appointment to fill a vacancy in the office of a judge of a circuit court; providing for a transitional period during which the terms of certain amendments are to become effective; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the State for their adoption or rejection.	Chair, Judiciary Committee (By Request - Maryland Judicial Conference)	In the House - First Reading Judiciary and Ways and Means Contingency - on a referendum
HB0781 Regular-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with SB0066 *NEW 1/30*	Title: Election Law - Polling Place Procedures - Voting by Elderly Voters and Voters With Disabilities (Accessible and Expedited Voting Act of Maryland) Requiring the State Board of Elections to establish guidelines for the local boards of election to implement a process to accommodate and expedite voting for elderly voters and voters with disabilities at each early voting center and polling place; requiring the local boards to implement the guidelines and collect feedback on the process from elderly voters and voters with disabilities and make immediate adjustments to the process; etc.	Delegates Roberts , Davis , Fennell , J. Long , Martinez , Roberson , Schmidt , Taylor , Vogel , and Woods	In the House - First Reading Ways and Means Effective Date(s): July 1, 2025
HB0816 Regular-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with SB0615 *NEW 1/30*	Title: Election Law - Petitions and Ballot Questions - Contents, Plain Language Requirement, and Procedures Altering the information that is required to be included on the signature page of a petition seeking to place a question on the ballot and with a question on the ballot; requiring that a certain summary included on the signature page of a petition seeking to place a question on the ballot and a certain statement about a question on the ballot be written in plain language; altering the deadline by which ballot questions must be prepared and certified; etc.	Delegates Feldmark , Bartlett , Embry , Guzzone , and Hill	In the House - First Reading Ways and Means Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
HB0839 Regular-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with SB0543 *NEW 1/30*	Title: Election Law - Provisional Ballots - Nonpartisan Board of Education Contests Providing that a voter is qualified to vote a provisional ballot if the provisional ballot was cast because the voter claimed a different political party affiliation from the political party affiliation on record for the voter and the voter made a selection in a nonpartisan board of education contest; and requiring a local board of canvassers to count only the votes cast in a nonpartisan board of education contest for those provisional ballots.	Delegate Roberson	In the House - First Reading Ways and Means Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
HB0890 Regular-Filed Bill *NEW 1/30*	Title: Election Law - Primary Elections - Change of Political Party Affiliation Authorizing a voter to change the voter's political party affiliation at an early voting center or precinct polling place during a primary election and vote the ballot for the voter's new political party affiliation.	Delegates Bouchat and Hornberger	In the House - First Reading Ways and Means Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025

SENATE BILLS - LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2025 (introduced as of 01/30/2025)

Bill Number	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status
SB0002 Pre-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with HB0174 Introduced in a prior session as HB0412 2024 Regular Session	Title: General Assembly - Special Election to Fill a Vacancy in Office Proposing a constitutional amendment to require that a special election be held at the same time as the regular statewide primary and general elections that are held in the second year of the term to fill a vacancy in the office of Delegate or Senator in the General Assembly if the vacancy occurs on or before the date that is 55 days before the deadline for filing certificates of candidacy for the regular statewide election.	Senator Kagan	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment Contingency - on a referendum
SB0018 Pre-Filed Bill	Title: Election Law - Early Voting - Number of Days Changing the number of days on which early voting centers are required to be open before a primary or general election by requiring early voting centers to be open through the second Monday, rather than the Thursday, before the election.	Senator Muse	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
SB0027 Pre-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with HB0111	Title: Election Law - Campaign Finance - Exploratory Committees Applying certain campaign finance requirements for a political committee to exploratory committees; establishing requirements and prohibitions for exploratory committees relating to the establishment of the committees, receipt of funds, and permissible disbursements; requiring an authorized candidate campaign committee that results from the exploratory committee to make any equipment purchases from the exploratory committee at the fair market value of the equipment; etc.	Senator Kagan	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment Effective Date(s): June 1, 2025

SB0066 Pre-Filed Bill	<p>Title: Election Law - Polling Place Procedures - Voting by Elderly Voters and Voters With Disabilities (Accessible and Expedited Voting Act of Maryland)</p> <p>Requiring the State Board of Elections to establish guidelines for the local boards of election to implement a process to accommodate and expedite voting for elderly voters and voters with disabilities at each early voting center and polling place; requiring the local boards to implement the guidelines and collect feedback on the process from elderly voters and voters with disabilities and make immediate adjustments to the process; etc.</p>	Senator Ellis	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment Effective Date(s): July 1, 2025
SB0088 Pre-Filed Bill Emergency Bill Cross-filed with: HB0322	<p>Title: Election Law - State Administrator of Elections - Municipal Elections</p> <p>Authorizing the State Administrator of Elections to enter into memoranda of understanding with municipalities that allow the State Administrator to work collaboratively with a municipality to support the administration of the municipality's elections.</p>	Senator Kagan	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment Effective Date(s): Upon Enactment
SB0093 Pre-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with HB0201 Introduced in a prior session as SB0824 2024 Regular Session	<p>Title: Election Law - Absentee Ballot Application - Sending to Eligible Voters Before Primary Elections</p> <p>Requiring each local board of elections to send the absentee ballot application approved by the State Board of Elections to each eligible voter at least 60 days before each statewide primary election, unless the voter has permanent absentee ballot status.</p>	Senator Kramer	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
SB0139 Pre-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with HB0667	<p>Title: State Government - Legal and Employee Holiday - Maryland Emancipation Day</p> <p>Establishing November 1 as Maryland Emancipation Day and as a State legal holiday and State employee holiday; and repealing the requirement that the Governor declare a certain day as Maryland Emancipation Day.</p>	Senator Ellis	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment and Budget and Taxation Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025

SB0171 Pre-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with HB0237 Introduced in a prior session as HB0347 2024 Regular Session	Title: General Assembly Vacancy - Political Party Central Committees – Procedures Establishing requirements for the filling of a vacancy in the office of Senator or Delegate in the General Assembly by a central committee of a political party under the Maryland Constitution relating to applications, public notice, public meetings, and voting; and requiring a member of the central committee who has applied to fill the vacancy to recuse themselves from voting on the individual to fill the vacancy.	Senator Lam	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
SB0236 Pre-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with HB0272	Title: Maryland Department of Planning – Modernization Requiring the State Administrator of Elections to submit certain information to the Secretary of Planning under certain circumstances; altering a requirement that the Department of the Environment submit certain proposals to the Department of Planning under certain circumstances; altering certain requirements related to the Department of Planning preparing certain population projections; etc.	Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee (By Request - Departmental – Planning)	In the Senate - Hearing 1/21 at 2:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
SB0257 Pre-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with HB0199	Title: Election Law - Notice to Permanent Absentee Voters Altering the time before an election when a certain notice is required to be sent to each voter who is on the permanent absentee ballot list; repealing a requirement that the notice be sent to each voter who is on the permanent absentee ballot list as of a certain date; and altering the action the State Board of Elections is required to take if the State Board is unable to contact a voter who is on the permanent absentee ballot list using the method of communication chosen by the voter.	Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee (By Request - Departmental – State Board of Elections)	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment Effective Date(s): July 1, 2025
SB0259 Pre-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with HB0274	Title: Election Law - Local Boards of Elections - Election Plan Requirements Requiring a local board of elections to submit an election plan to the State Board of Elections for approval at least 7 months before each statewide primary election; establishing requirements related to an election plan; and altering the requirements related to polling place plans, ballot drop box plans, and early voting center plans.	Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee (By Request - Departmental – State Board of Elections)	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment Effective Date(s): July 1, 2025 By Request of the Governor

SB0262 Pre-Filed Bill Emergency Bill Cross-Filed with HB0075	Title: Election Law - Special Elections Altering requirements for scheduling special elections to fill vacancies in a county council or in the office of chief executive officer or county executive; authorizing the resolution of a county council establishing the date of a special election to fill a vacancy in the county council or in the office of chief executive officer or county executive to direct that a special primary election not be held and that the vacancy be filled solely through a special general election; etc.	Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee (By Request - Departmental – State Board of Elections)	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment Effective Date(s): Upon Enactment
SB0267 Pre-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with HB0041	Title: Election Law - Petitions for the Formation of a New Political Party – Process Altering the time periods during which a petition for the formation of a new political party or additional signatures to a petition may not be filed; and prohibiting signatures submitted with a petition that was officially determined as not meeting certain legal requirements from being resubmitted with a subsequent petition.	Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee (By Request - Departmental – State Board of Elections)	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment Effective Date(s): July 1, 2025
SB0308 Regular-Filed Bill	Title: Election Law – Chief Election Judges – Party Affiliation Requiring the election director of a local board of elections to designate chief election judges from certain political parties to each polling place except under certain circumstances; and requiring an election director who is unable to designate chief judges for a polling place at least 45 days before the start of early voting to make a certain designation in a certain manner.	Senator Simonaire	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
SB0313 Regular-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with HB0426 Introduced in a prior session as SB0523 2024 Regular Session	Title: Election Law - Postelection Tabulation Audits - Risk-Limiting Audits Requiring the State Board of Elections, in collaboration with the local boards of elections, to conduct a risk-limiting audit after each statewide election; authorizing the State Board, in collaboration with the local boards, to conduct a risk-limiting audit after a special general election; authorizing, rather than requiring, the State Board, in collaboration with the local boards, to conduct an automated software audit after a statewide election; etc.	Senator M. Washington	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment Effective Date(s): June 1, 2025

SB0323 Regular-Filed Bill	Title: Election Law - Statewide Voter Registration Application - Prepaid Postage Requiring that a statewide voter registration application include a return envelope or envelope template with prepaid postage that an applicant may use to return the application to the State Board of Elections; requiring a statewide voter registration application to be accompanied by certain instructions for postage; and requiring the return envelopes or envelope templates to be preprinted with the address of the State Board for purposes of the returning the statewide voter registration application.	Senator Kagan	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment Effective Date(s): June 1, 2025
SB0337 Regular-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with HB0412	Title: Elections - Local Boards of Elections and Boards of Canvassers - Open Meeting Requirements (Local Boards of Elections Transparency Act) Requiring each local board of canvassers to make available on its website each open meeting agenda, a summary of any finalized documents, certain written testimony, and other materials on which the board will be voting; requiring each local board to provide live video streaming of each open meeting and to maintain a complete and unedited archived video recording of each open meeting for 5 years; requiring the State Board of Elections to adopt regulations to ensure that the streaming requirements are met in a certain manner; etc.	Senator Kagan	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment Effective Date(s): June 1, 2025
SB0342 Regular-Filed Bill Introduced in a prior session as SB0413 2022 Regular Session	Title: Voting Rights Act of 2025 - Counties and Municipalities Prohibiting the imposition or application of a method for electing the governing body of a county or municipality that impairs the ability of members of a protected class to elect candidates of the members' choice or influence the outcome of an election by diluting or abridging the rights of voters who are members of a protected class.	Senator Sydnor	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
SB0361 Regular-Filed Bill	Title: Election Law - Influence on a Voter's Voting Decision By Use of Fraud – Prohibition Prohibiting a person from using fraud to influence or attempt to influence a voter's voting decision; and providing that fraud includes the use of synthetic media.	Senator Hester	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment Effective Date(s): June 1, 2025
SB0383 Regular-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with HB0215	Title: Elections - Ranked-Choice Voting in Contests for Presidential Nomination and Certification of Election-Supporting Technology Authorizing the State Board of Elections, beginning with the 2028 statewide primary election, to use ranked-choice voting to conduct a contest for the nomination by a political party of a	Senator Kagan	In the Senate - First Reading Education,

	candidate for the office of President of the United States; requiring the State Board to adopt regulations for the review, certification, and decertification of election-supporting technology and to periodically review and evaluate election-supporting technology; etc.		Energy, and the Environment Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
SB0534 Regular-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with HB0586 *NEW 1/30*	Title: Election Law - Election Judges – Compensation Requiring a local board of elections to pay an election judge compensation for completing a certain course of instruction only after the election judge actually serves an election day or early voting day; and authorizing a public school student in the State to both earn hours toward the service-learning graduation requirement and receive election judge compensation for service as an election judge.	Senators Kagan and Gallion	In the Senate - Hearing 2/26 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
SB0543 Regular-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with HB0839 *NEW 1/30*	Title: Election Law - Provisional Ballots - Nonpartisan Board of Education Contests Providing that a voter is qualified to vote a provisional ballot if the provisional ballot was cast because the voter claimed a different political party affiliation from the political party affiliation on record for the voter and the voter made a selection in a nonpartisan board of education contest; and requiring a local board of canvassers to count only the votes cast in a nonpartisan board of education contest for those provisional ballots.	Senator Kagan	In the Senate - Hearing 2/26 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
SB0615 Regular-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with HB0816 *NEW 1/30*	Title: Election Law - Petitions and Ballot Questions - Contents, Plain Language Requirement, and Procedures Altering the information that is required to be included on the signature page of a petition seeking to place a question on the ballot and with a question on the ballot; requiring that a certain summary included on the signature page of a petition seeking to place a question on the ballot and a certain statement about a question on the ballot be written in plain language; altering the deadline by which ballot questions must be prepared and certified; etc.	Senator Kagan	In the Senate - Hearing 2/26 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
SB0630 Regular-Filed Bill Constitutional Bill Cross-Filed with HB0778 *NEW 1/30*	Title: Circuit Court Judges - Selection and Retention Elections Proposing amendments to the Maryland Constitution relating to the selection and tenure of circuit court judges; altering the method of filling vacancies in the office of a judge of a circuit court; providing for retention elections following an appointment to fill a vacancy in the office of a judge of a circuit court; providing for a transitional period during which the terms of certain amendments are to become effective; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the State for their adoption or rejection.	Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee (By Request - Maryland Judicial Conference)	In the Senate - First Reading Judicial Proceedings Contingency - on a referendum
SB0633 Regular-Filed Bill	Title: Campaign Finance - Political Organizations - Disclosures on Solicitations (Stop Scam PACs Act) Requiring certain political organizations to include certain disclaimers and statements on certain solicitations; authorizing the State Administrator of Elections to	Senator Kagan	In the Senate - Hearing 2/26 at 1:00 p.m.

NEW 1/30	investigate a potential violation of the Act; and authorizing the State Board after the issuance of a public report of its finding to prohibit a person who violated the Act from making further solicitations for a certain period or impose a civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000.		Effective Date(s): July 1, 2025
SB0645 Regular-Filed Bill *NEW 1/30*	Title: Election Law - Gubernatorial Primary Election – Date Altering, from the last Tuesday in June to the fourth Tuesday in June, the date for the primary election in the year of the gubernatorial election.	Senator Kagan	In the Senate - Hearing 2/26 at 1:00 p.m. Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
SB0647 Regular-Filed Bill Cross-Filed with HB0710 *NEW 1/30*	Title: Election Law - Incarcerated Individuals - Voter Hotline and Voting Eligibility (Voting Rights for All Act) Requiring the State Board of Elections to provide a certain voter hotline for incarcerated individuals; and altering the circumstances under which an individual is not qualified to be a registered voter for the purpose of allowing individuals convicted of a felony and serving a court-ordered sentence of imprisonment for the conviction to register to vote.	Senator Muse	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025
SB0685 Regular-Filed Bill *NEW 1/30*	Title: Election Law - Local Boards of Elections - Language-Related Assistance Requiring the State Board of Elections to determine whether there is a significant and substantial need for language-related assistance in certain languages by a local board of elections during an election, based on certain criteria; requiring local boards to provide certain language-related assistance and materials in voting and elections to certain voters in certain languages; and requiring local boards to make reasonable efforts to recruit election judges who are fluent in certain languages.	Senator Augustine	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment Effective Date(s): October 1, 2025