

Bill No.: _____

Requested: _____

Committee: _____

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By: **Montgomery County Delegation**

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Montgomery County – Election Law – Days of Early Voting**

3 **MC 23–10**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the required days for early voting before the 2010
5 gubernatorial primary and general elections in Montgomery County; making
6 this Act an emergency measure; and generally relating to the days of early
7 voting in Montgomery County.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

9 Article – Election Law

10 Section 10–301.1

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2003 Volume and 2009 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Election Law**

16 10–301.1.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (a) Except as provided under Title 9, Subtitle 3 of this article, during any
2 regularly scheduled primary or general election a voter may vote:

3 (1) in the voter’s assigned precinct on election day; or

4 (2) at an early voting center in the voter’s county of residence on any
5 early voting day in accordance with this section.

6 (b) (1) Each county shall have at least one early voting center established
7 in the county as prescribed in this subsection.

8 (2) A county with fewer than 150,000 registered voters shall have one
9 early voting center established in the county.

10 (3) A county with more than 150,000 but fewer than 300,000
11 registered voters shall have three early voting centers established in the county.

12 (4) A county with more than 300,000 registered voters shall have five
13 early voting centers established in the county.

14 (c) No later than 6 months before a primary election, the State Board, in
15 collaboration with the local board in each county, shall designate each early voting
16 center in that county.

17 (d) Each early voting center shall be open for voting as follows:

18 (1) **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS**
19 **SUBSECTION,** for the 2010 gubernatorial primary and general elections:

20 (i) beginning the second Friday before a primary or general
21 election through the Thursday before the elections, but excluding Sunday; and

22 (ii) during the hours between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.; [and]

23 **(2) IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, FOR THE 2010 GUBERNATORIAL**
24 **PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTIONS:**

1 **(I) BEGINNING THE SECOND SATURDAY BEFORE A**
2 **PRIMARY OR GENERAL ELECTION THROUGH THE THURSDAY BEFORE THE**
3 **ELECTIONS; AND**

4 **(II) DURING THE HOURS BETWEEN 10 A.M. AND 8 P.M.; AND**

5 **[(2)] (3)** for the 2012 presidential primary and general elections:

6 (i) beginning the second Saturday before a primary or general
7 election through the Thursday before the elections; and

8 (ii) 1. during the hours between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. on the
9 Saturday and the Monday through the Thursday during the early voting period; and

10 2. during the hours between 12 noon and 6 p.m. on the
11 Sunday during the early voting period.

12 (e) Each early voting center shall satisfy the requirements of § 10–101 of this
13 title.

14 (f) Beginning 30 days prior to each early voting period the State Board and
15 each local board shall undertake steps to inform the public about early voting and the
16 location of early voting centers in each county, including:

17 (1) a series of public service media announcements;

18 (2) mailings to all registered voters in each county; and

19 (3) other measures as appropriate.

20 (g) Except as expressly provided in this section, any provision of this article
21 that applies to voting on election day also applies to early voting.

22 (h) The State Board shall adopt regulations and guidelines in accordance
23 with the requirements of this section for the conduct of early voting.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency
25 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety,

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1 has been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members
2 elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from
3 the date it is enacted.