

Stephanie L. Taylor
Director

Karen M. Perry
Deputy Director



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Marquita J. McMillan, Vice President
James C. Richardson, Secretary
Joseph N. Price, Member
Medford J. Campbell, Member

Brian K. Young, Esq., Board Counsel

HARFORD COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS OFFICE REPORT April 22, 2026

Administration:

- We have a budget meeting with the County Council on April 24, 2026.

Staff Updates:

- We received the candidate list for the Election Support Staff positions. We will start the interviewing process the week of April 27, 2026. Their start date is May 26, 2026.
- We received a candidate list for our two contractual positions. We have conducted interviews this past week and hopefully they will start the first or second week of May.

Election Operations:

- The ballot drop boxes will be delivered on May 6th.
- Reminder of the Supply verification is on May 14th.
- We printed and gave the precinct register to the City of Havre de Grace for their election in May.
- On April 23rd, we will be going to the State Board of Election's Central Warehouse to see the new voting equipment and possible new software to use in future elections.
- We are organizing and preparing for logic and accuracy testing for all the election equipment. Which will start in May.
- Continuing regular equipment charging & maintenance.

Election Judges:

- We have wrapped up our training for two types of judges (Ballot and Voting) and started training for Check-In judges.
- The remaining judge types have been sent the information to sign up for training.
- We continue to have Meet and Greets to recruit new judges.
- We continue to prepare and pack the judge supplies.
- Break down by party of people who have applied to be an election judge:
 - Democratic - 371
 - Republican - 312
 - Unaffiliated - 143
 - Other - 21
 - Other - 8

Voter Registration

March

- Volume from Electronic Voter Registration Applications (EVRAs) – 5489
 - Voter Registration Applications – 5297
 - Mail-in Ballot Applications – 192

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- Social Security verifications – 8 records verified.
- AOC list – Felons through the Administrative Office of Courts - 6
- DHMH (Deceased) list through the Maryland Department of Health – 159
- Cancelled for non-citizenship – 0 records.
- Inactivated – 53 (Final inactivation until after the election)
- Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) Reports
 - NCOA (National Change of Address) – 665
 - Cross State – 212
 - In-State Updates – 756
- Fuzzy Matching Reports
 - Deceased
 - Duplicates
- Underage Correspondence – 1459 registrants

Current as of 4/14/26

- Our volume of electronic batches, mail and walk-ins have increased. In addition to regular daily work, we continue to receive documents from the jury commissioner. We also sent correspondence to 1459 underage registrants who will not be eighteen on or before by the general election and anticipate receiving our next AOC, DHMH, and fuzzy matching reports soon.

Nursing Home Program - In preparation for the 2026 Gubernatorial Primary Elections, we connected with all nursing homes and assisted living facilities in Harford County with fifty or more beds. We have made in-person visits to five facilities with several more scheduled over the next week. We have facilitated voter registrations and requests for a mail-in ballot. We continue to grow our relationship with the facilities by sharing information and we are always available to answer their questions and assist in any of their voting needs.

Legislation

SB0670 (HB1001): LBE Employees — Authority at Polling Places

- Status: Passed Enrolled.
- This bill gives the State administrator, deputy administrator, and the local board election directors the legal authority to keep the peace, direct law enforcement, and manage observers at polling places.
- It establishes a mandatory security requirement prohibiting accredited challengers and watchers from physically handling voting equipment and requires their credentials to be submitted to the local board before they may enter a voting or canvassing room.

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SB0443 (HB0621): Local Boards of Elections — Board Counsel Qualifications

- Status: Passed.
- Recruitment: Local Boards of Elections now have expanded options for hiring board counsel, as they can recruit an attorney who is a registered voter from anywhere within the state of Maryland, rather than being restricted to their own county.

SB0029 (HB0044): Petitions and Ballot Questions — Plain Language Requirement

- Status: Passed.
- Does not allow the use of passive voice, legal jargon, or double negatives in ballot questions in conjunction with other federal plain language guidelines.

SB0100 (HB0263): Early Voting Centers — Bus Stops

- Status: Passed.
- It requires local buses with routes within one-half mile of Early Voting Centers to drop voters off at the entrance of the center while Early Voting is open. There is “to the maximum extent practicable” language and other considerations about accessibility included. It does not apply to express or commuter buses, MTA buses, or Metro buses.

SB0241 (HB0115): Automatic Restoration of Voter Registration — Released Individuals

- Status: Passed.
- Upon being released from jail individuals who were previously registered to vote and whose new address is still in Maryland, their voter registration is to be automatically restored as Active.

SB0255 (HB0350): Maryland Voting Rights Act of 2026

- Status: Passed Enrolled.
- This bill creates a state level version of the Federal Voting Rights Act specifically for Maryland counties and municipalities.
- The expected impact on local boards is currently unknown.

HB0357: Municipalities — Election Dates — Reporting Requirements

- Status: Passed.
- Requires municipal election information to be posted on SBE’s website, including dates and what is being voted on. Also requires municipalities with websites to do the same.

SB0848 (HB1448): Municipal Elections — Candidate and Voting Information

- Status: Passed.
- Requires municipal election information to be posted on SBE’s website. This bill focuses on qualifications for candidacy, filed candidates, and how and where to vote in municipal elections.

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SB0949 (HB1069): Election Law - Absentee Ballots - State and Federal Requirements

- Status: Returned Passed
- Even though the Maryland Constitution uses the term "absentee," the State Board and local boards must now use the term "mail-in ballots" and "mail-in voting" in all public communications.
- Any absentee ballots delivered via the internet (what we call web delivery ballots) must be referred to as "print-at-home ballots."
- When federal and state deadlines for counting votes conflict, Maryland will still count votes for local contests, provided they meet state deadlines.

Upcoming Events:

- April 23rd – Outreach to the Teen YMCA Leader Club
- April 30th – Outreach at the Disabilities Rights Fair
- May 5th – MAEO Voter Registration and Mail-in Ballot Meeting