

# HOUSE BILL 1328

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By: **Delegates Boteler, Arikan, Beitzel, Long, Mangione, Metzgar, Parrott, Reilly, and Shoemaker**

Introduced and read first time: February 15, 2019

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Electioneering Boundary Line**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring that the placement of the electioneering boundary line at  
4 each polling place be at any point within a certain range of distance from the  
5 entrance and exit on approval of the local board of elections instead of requiring that  
6 an electioneering boundary line be located as near as practicable to a certain distance  
7 from the entrance and exit of each polling place in certain counties; making a  
8 conforming change; and generally relating to electioneering boundary lines at polling  
9 places.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
11 Article – Election Law  
12 Section 16–206(a)(10) and (c)  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
16 Article – Election Law  
17 Section 16–206(b)  
18 Annotated Code of Maryland  
19 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

22 **Article – Election Law**

23 16–206.

24 (a) A person may not:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (10) canvass, electioneer, or post any campaign material in the polling place  
2 or beyond a line established by signs posted in accordance with subsection (b) of this section.

3 (b) (1) At each polling place, one election judge from each principal political  
4 party shall be designated by the local board and, acting jointly, shall post signs delineating  
5 a line around the entrance and exit of the building that are closest to that part of the  
6 building in which voting occurs.

7 (2) [(i) Except as provided in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, the]  
8 **ON APPROVAL OF THE LOCAL BOARD, THE** line shall be located [as near as practicable  
9 to 100 feet] **AT ANY POINT BETWEEN 25 FEET AND 100 FEET** from the entrance and exit  
10 and shall be established after consideration of the configuration of the entrance and the  
11 effect of placement on public safety and the flow of pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

12 [(ii) In Montgomery County, on approval of the local board, the line  
13 may be located at any point between 25 feet and 100 feet from the entrance and exit.]

14 (3) The signs shall contain the words “No Electioneering Beyond this  
15 Point”.

16 (c) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and is subject to  
17 a fine of not less than \$50 nor more than \$500 or imprisonment for not more than 60 days  
18 or both.

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
20 October 1, 2019.