

# HOUSE BILL 201

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HB 1489/24 – W&M

(PRE-FILED)

5r1487  
CF SB 93

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By: **Delegate Wilkins**

Requested: October 30, 2024

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2025

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Absentee Ballot Application – Sending to Eligible Voters Before**  
3 **Primary Elections**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring each local board of elections to send the absentee ballot  
5 application approved by the State Board of Elections to each eligible voter at least a  
6 certain number of days before each statewide primary election, unless the voter has  
7 permanent absentee ballot status; and generally relating to absentee ballot  
8 applications.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Election Law

11 Section 9–305(e)

12 Annotated Code of Maryland

13 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Election Law**

17 9–305.

18 **(E) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION,**  
19 **AT LEAST 60 DAYS BEFORE EACH STATEWIDE PRIMARY ELECTION, EACH LOCAL**  
20 **BOARD SHALL SEND THE STATE-APPROVED ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION TO**  
21 **EACH ELIGIBLE VOTER.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1                   **(2) A LOCAL BOARD IS NOT REQUIRED TO SEND THE**  
2 **STATE-APPROVED ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION TO A VOTER WHO HAS**  
3 **PERMANENT ABSENTEE BALLOT STATUS UNDER § 9-311.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

4                   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
5 October 1, 2025.