

SENATE BILL 544

G1
SB 800/20 – EHE

2lr0486

By: **Senator Ready**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2022

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Casting General Election Ballot in Multiple States – Prohibition**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from willfully or knowingly casting a ballot in a
4 general election in more than one state in the same year; and generally relating to
5 election law violations related to voting.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article – Election Law
8 Section 16–201
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

Article – Election Law

13 16–201.

14 (a) A person may not willfully and knowingly:

15 (1) (i) impersonate another person in order to vote or attempt to vote;
16 or
17

18 (ii) vote or attempt to vote under a false name;

19 (2) vote more than once for a candidate for the same office or for the same
20 ballot question;

21 (3) vote or attempt to vote more than once in the same election, or vote in
22 more than one election district or precinct;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (4) **CAST A BALLOT IN A GENERAL ELECTION IN MORE THAN ONE**
2 **STATE IN THE SAME YEAR;**

3 **(5)** vote in an election district or precinct without the legal authority to vote
4 in that election district or precinct;

5 **[(5)] (6)** influence or attempt to influence a voter's voting decision
6 through the use of force, threat, menace, intimidation, bribery, reward, or offer of reward;

7 **[(6)] (7)** influence or attempt to influence a voter's decision whether to go
8 to the polls to cast a vote through the use of force, fraud, threat, menace, intimidation,
9 bribery, reward, or offer of reward; or

10 **[(7)] (8)** engage in conduct that results or has the intent to result in the
11 denial or abridgement of the right of any citizen of the United States to vote on account of
12 race, color, or disability.

13 (b) Except as provided in § 16–1002 of this title, a person who violates this section
14 is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine of not more than \$5,000 or
15 imprisonment for not more than 5 years or both.

16 (c) A person who violates this section is subject to § 5–106(b) of the Courts Article.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2022.