



MARYLAND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COALITION

Dedicated to the rights and quality of life for people with developmental disabilities in Maryland

HB 245: Election Judges - Training and Signs – Accommodations for Voters in Need of Assistance

Requires training materials for election judges, including methods of assistance or accommodation for people with disabilities and older adults. It also requires a sign be placed at each polling site.

What are the benefits:

- promotes inclusion for people with disabilities
- provides election judges with tools to help support people with disabilities and older adults

HB 153: Election Law – Elections by Mail

Requires each local board of elections to send a vote-by-mail ballot to everyone who is registered to vote.

What are the benefits:

- increases privacy
- Improves access to the right to vote for people with disabilities

HB 247: Election Law – Voting Order Priority – Individuals Who Need Extra Assistance

Allows election judges to create a voting order priority so people with mobility disabilities, people providing assistance to a person with a mobility disabilities, and people with young children can go to the front of the line. In addition, the bill:

- Allows someone to request a voting order priority
- Requires training guidelines be established for election judges
- Requires notice of the option to request voting order priority to voters before an election and at each polling place on election day

HB 423/SB 271: Election Law – Voting Systems – Accessibility for Voters with Disabilities

Requires each voter to use a ballot marking device that is accessible to voters with disabilities to vote at an early voting center or an Election Day polling place.

What are the benefits:

- increases privacy and protections if everyone uses a ballot marking device
- Improves access to the right to vote for people with disabilities because all ballot marking devices will be accessible