

# HOUSE BILL 217

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CF 0lr0490

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By: **Delegates Cardin, Ali, Elmore, Frick, Rice, Ross, and Walker**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2010

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Elections – Voter Registration and Voting – Age**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the qualifications for voter registration to allow an  
4 individual who is at least 16 years old to register to vote; specifying that an  
5 individual is not eligible to vote until a certain election in which the individual  
6 is 18 years old or older; and generally relating to the age when an individual  
7 becomes qualified to register to vote and to vote.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article – Election Law  
10 Section 3–102  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2003 Volume and 2009 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Election Law**

16 3–102.

17 (a) **(1)** Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, an individual  
18 may become registered to vote if the individual:

19 **[(1)] (I)** is a citizen of the United States;

20 **[(2)] (II)** is at least **[18] 16** years old **[or will be 18 years old on or**  
21 **before the day of the next succeeding general or special election];**

22 **[(3)] (III)** is a resident of the State as of the day the individual seeks to  
23 register; and

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1            [(4)] (IV) registers pursuant to this title.

2            **(2) NOTWITHSTANDING PARAGRAPH (1)(II) OF THIS SUBSECTION,**  
3 **AN INDIVIDUAL IS NOT QUALIFIED TO VOTE UNTIL THE FIRST GENERAL OR**  
4 **SPECIAL ELECTION THAT OCCURS WHILE THE INDIVIDUAL IS 18 YEARS OLD OR**  
5 **OLDER.**

6            (b) An individual is not qualified to be a registered voter if the individual:

7            (1) has been convicted of a felony and is actually serving a  
8 court-ordered sentence of imprisonment, including any term of parole or probation, for  
9 the conviction;

10            (2) is under guardianship for mental disability; or

11            (3) has been convicted of buying or selling votes.

12            SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
13 October 1, 2010.