

HOUSE BILL 804

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2lr0508

By: **Prince George's County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2012

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Prince George's County – Special Elections – Reduction of Polling Places**

3 **PG 404–12**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Prince George's County Board of Elections to
5 direct that a certain minimum number of polling places be open for voting in a
6 special election for the Prince George's County Council or the Prince George's
7 County Board of Education; requiring the board of elections to mail certain
8 information to voters, facilitate absentee voting, and establish polling places
9 during a certain period if the board exercises its authority under this Act; and
10 generally relating to reducing the number of polling places in a special election
11 for the county council or the board of education in Prince George's County.

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Election Law

14 Section 8–402

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Election Law**

20 **8–402.**

21 **(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY TO A SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE**
22 **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL OR THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY**
23 **BOARD OF EDUCATION THAT IS HELD IN A SINGLE COUNTY COUNCIL OR BOARD**
24 **OF EDUCATION DISTRICT.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(B) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, THE PRINCE GEORGE'S**
2 **COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS MAY DIRECT THAT A MINIMUM OF FIVE**
3 **POLLING PLACES BE OPEN FOR VOTING IN A SPECIAL ELECTION.**

4 **(C) IF THE LOCAL BOARD EXERCISES THE AUTHORITY GRANTED IN**
5 **SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE LOCAL BOARD SHALL:**

6 **(1) MAIL THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO EACH ACTIVE**
7 **REGISTERED VOTER WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IN THE SPECIAL ELECTION:**

8 **(I) THE LOCATION OF EACH POLLING PLACE THAT WILL BE**
9 **OPEN FOR VOTING IN THE SPECIAL ELECTION; AND**

10 **(II) INSTRUCTIONS ON APPLYING TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE**
11 **BALLOT;**

12 **(2) TAKE ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE ACTIONS TO FACILITATE**
13 **ABSENTEE VOTING IN THE SPECIAL ELECTION; AND**

14 **(3) IF NECESSARY TO EXPEDITE THE CONDUCT OF A SPECIAL**
15 **ELECTION AND SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE STATE BOARD, ESTABLISH**
16 **A POLLING PLACE DURING A PERIOD WHEN A CHANGE IN POLLING PLACES IS**
17 **PROHIBITED UNDER § 2-303 OF THIS ARTICLE.**

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
19 June 1, 2012.