

Chapter 796

(House Bill 73)

AN ACT concerning

Election Law – Election Judges – Minimum Age ~~and Minimum Compensation~~

FOR the purpose of authorizing a minor who is at least a certain age and who is a registered voter to be appointed and serve as an election judge; ~~prohibiting a local board of elections from paying an election judge less than a certain minimum wage;~~ making a conforming change; making a technical correction; requiring the State Board of Elections to survey the local boards of elections concerning minor election judges authorized by this Act and submit a certain report to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date; and generally relating to election judges.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Election Law
Section 10–202(a) ~~and 10–205~~
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2010 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Labor and Employment
Section 3–210(c)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2016 Replacement Volume)

~~BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Labor and Employment
Section 3–413
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2016 Replacement Volume)~~

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

Article – Election Law

10–202.

(a) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, an election judge shall be a registered voter who resides in the county for which the election judge is appointed.

(2) (i) If a qualified individual residing in the county cannot be found with reasonable effort, the local board may appoint a registered voter residing in any part of the State.

(ii) Subject to the provisions of § 3-210(c) of the Labor and Employment Article, a minor who is at least [17] 16 years old and who is [too young to be] a registered voter may be appointed and serve as an election judge [if the minor demonstrates, to the satisfaction of the local board, that the minor meets all of the other qualifications for registration in the county].

~~10-205.~~

~~(a) (1) [A] SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A local board may fix the compensation of election judges within the limits authorized for this purpose by the county's governing body.~~

~~(2) NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A LOCAL BOARD MAY NOT PAY AN ELECTION JUDGE LESS THAN THE MINIMUM WAGE REQUIRED UNDER § 3-413 OF THE LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT ARTICLE.~~

~~[(2)] (3) A local board shall pay an election judge for each election day and each early voting day that the election judge actually serves.~~

~~(b) (1) In Allegany County, the compensation for each day actually served may not be less than:~~

~~(i) \$100 per day for each chief election judge; and~~

~~(ii) \$80 per day for every other election judge.~~

~~(2) (i) In Baltimore City, the compensation for each election day or early voting day actually served shall be:~~

~~1. not less than \$200 per day for each chief election judge; and~~

~~2. not less than \$150 per day for every other election judge.~~

~~(ii) 1. In Baltimore City, except as provided in subsubparagraph 2 of this subparagraph, an election judge shall receive \$20 as compensation for completing the course of instruction required under § 10-206(g)(1) of this subtitle.~~

~~2. Unless the local board excuses the election judge from service, an election judge who fails to serve on election day or on an early voting day may not receive the compensation authorized under this subparagraph.~~

~~(3) In Baltimore County, the compensation for each election day or early voting day actually served shall be:~~

~~(i) \$225 per day for each chief election judge; and~~

~~(ii) \$162.50 per day for every other election judge.~~

~~(4) In Calvert County, the compensation for each election day or early voting day actually served shall be:~~

~~(i) \$200 per day for each chief election judge; and~~

~~(ii) \$175 per day for every other election judge.~~

~~(5) In Harford County, the compensation for each election day or early voting day actually served shall be:~~

~~(i) not less than \$160 per day for each chief election judge; and~~

~~(ii) not less than \$125 per day for every other election judge.~~

~~(6) (i) In Prince George's County, the compensation for each election day or early voting day actually served shall be not less than:~~

~~1. \$250 per day for two chief election judges; and~~

~~2. \$200 per day for every other election judge.~~

~~(ii) 1. In Prince George's County, except as provided under subsubparagraph 2 of this subparagraph, election judges and alternate election judges shall receive \$50 as compensation for completing the course of instruction required under § 10-206 of this subtitle.~~

~~2. An election judge or alternate election judge may not receive the compensation authorized under this subparagraph if the election judge refuses to serve on an election day or on an early voting day, unless the local board excuses the election judge.~~

~~(7) (i) In Washington County, the compensation for each election day or early voting day actually served shall be:~~

~~1. \$175 per day for each chief election judge, plus a mileage allowance as determined by the Washington County Board; and~~

~~2. \$150 per day for every other election judge.~~

~~(ii) In Washington County, a chief election judge or election judge who successfully completes a course of instruction in poll working shall be eligible for additional compensation, if approved by the Washington County Board and provided for in the county budget.~~

Article – Labor and Employment

3-210.

(c) A minor who is **16 OR** 17 years old and serves as an election judge, under § 10-202 of the Election Law Article, may work more than 12 hours on **AN EARLY VOTING DAY OR ON** election day only, subject to consent from at least one parent or guardian.

~~3-413.~~

~~(a) In this section, “employer” includes a governmental unit.~~

~~(b) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section and § 3-414 of this subtitle, each employer shall pay:~~

~~(1) to each employee who is subject to both the federal Act and this subtitle, at least the greater of:~~

~~(i) the minimum wage for that employee under the federal Act; or~~

~~(ii) the State minimum wage rate set under subsection (e) of this section; and~~

~~(2) each other employee who is subject to this subtitle, at least:~~

~~(i) the greater of:~~

~~1. the highest minimum wage under the federal Act; or~~

~~2. the State minimum wage rate set under subsection (e) of this section; or~~

~~(ii) a training wage under regulations that the Commissioner adopts that include the conditions and limitations authorized under the federal Fair Labor Standards Amendments of 1989.~~

~~(e) The State minimum wage rate is:~~

~~(1) for the 6 month period beginning January 1, 2015, \$8.00 per hour;~~

~~(2) for the 12-month period beginning July 1, 2015, \$8.25 per hour;~~

~~(3) for the 12-month period beginning July 1, 2016, \$8.75 per hour;~~

~~(4) for the 12-month period beginning July 1, 2017, \$9.25 per hour; and~~

~~(5) beginning July 1, 2018, \$10.10 per hour.~~

~~(d) (1) (i) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection and subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, an employer may pay an employee a wage that equals a rate of 85% of the State minimum wage established under this section if the employee is under the age of 20 years.~~

~~(ii) An employer may pay to an employee the wage provided under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph only for the first 6 months that the employee is employed.~~

~~(2) (i) This paragraph applies only to an employer that is an amusement or a recreational establishment, including a swimming pool, if the employer:~~

~~1. operates for no more than 7 months in a calendar year; or~~

~~2. for any 6 months during the preceding calendar year, has average receipts that do not exceed one-third of the average receipts for the other 6 months.~~

~~(ii) An employer may pay an employee a wage that equals the greater of:~~

~~1. 85% of the State minimum wage established under this section; or~~

~~2. \$7.25.~~

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) The State Board of Elections shall survey the local boards of elections after the 2018 elections concerning their experience with 16-year-old election judges authorized by this Act.

(b) The State Board shall compile and summarize the responses to the survey in a report that includes findings and recommendations concerning the value of 16-year-old election judges.

(c) On or before February 1, 2019, the State Board shall submit the report required under this section to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Committee and the House Committee on Ways and Means, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article.

SECTION ~~2~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2017.

Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 27, 2017.