

10 AN ACT CONCERNING

20 **Election Law – Selection of Presidential Electors**

30 FOR the purpose of altering the method of nominating presidential electors; requiring each political party
40 to nominate one elector from each congressional district in the State and two electors at large;
50 repealing the requirement that presidential electors be elected at large by the voters of the entire
60 State; altering the procedures that presidential electors must follow when casting their ballot for
70 president and vice president; and generally relating to nominations and responsibilities of
80 presidential electors.

90 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
100 Article 33 – Election Code
110 Section 8-503 through 8-505
120 Annotated Code of Maryland
130 (1997 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

140 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE MARYLAND STUDENT LEGISLATURE,
150 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

160 **Article 33 – Election Code**

170 8-503

180 (a) Each political party shall nominate or provide for the nomination of candidates for
190 presidential elector of the party in accordance with party rules.

200 ~~(b) The number of candidates nominated by each political party shall be the number that this~~
210 ~~State is entitled to elect.~~

220 (B) EACH POLITICAL PARTY SHALL NOMINATE:

230 (1) ONE ELECTOR FROM EACH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT IN THIS
240 STATE; AND

250 (2) TWO ELECTORS AT LARGE.

260 (c) (1) The names of individuals nominated as candidates for presidential elector by a
270 political party shall be certified to the State Board by the presiding officers of the political party.

280 (2) The names of individuals nominated as candidates for presidential elector by a
290 candidate for President of the United States who is nominated by petition shall be certified to the State
300 Board by the candidate on a form prescribed by the State Board.

310 8-504.

320 (a) At the general election for President and Vice President of the United States there shall
330 be elected, in accordance with subsection (b) AND (C) of this section, the number of presidential electors
340 to which this State is entitled. ~~Presidential electors shall be elected at large by the voters of the entire State.~~

350 (b) The names of the candidates for the office of presidential elector ~~may not~~ MUST be
360 printed on the ballot NEXT TO THE NAMES OF ~~A vote for~~ the candidates for President and Vice
370 President ~~of~~ WHO NOMINATED SAID ELECTORS DIRECTELY OR THROUGH THEIR a political
380 party ~~shall be deemed to be and counted as a vote for each of the presidential electors of the political party~~
390 ~~nominated~~ in accordance with § 8-503 of this subtitle. ELECTORS SHALL BE ELECTED BY THE
400 VOTERS ONE FROM EACH DISTRICT AND TWO AT LARGE IN THE STATE.

410 (C) (1) WRITE-IN CANDIDATES FOR THE POSITION OF ELECTOR MUST BE
420 PERMITTED; AND

430 (2) A VOTER MAY ALSO WRITE-IN ANY COMBINATION OF
440 CANDIDATES FOR THE POSITIONS OF PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT, AS LONG AS SAID
450 VOTER CLEARLY INDICATES WHICH POSITION EACH CANDIDATE SHOULD HAVE
460 ACCORDING TO SAID VOTERS INTENTIONS AND SAID VOTER HAS ALSO CAST A WRITE-IN
470 VOTE FOR THE POSITION OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTOR.

480 (D) (1) IN THE CASE THAT A WRITE-IN CANDIDATE WINS A POSITION OF
490 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTOR, SAID ELECTOR MUST BE INFORMED OF HOW THE VOTERS WHO
500 WROTE IN SAID ELECTORS NAME INDICATED THEIR INTENTIONS FOR PRESIDENT AND
510 VICE PRESIDENT.

520 8-505.

530 (a) The individuals elected to the office of presidential elector shall meet in the State House
540 in the City of Annapolis on the day provided by the Constitution and laws of the United States. The
550 conduct of the meeting shall be consistent with the requirements of federal law.

560 (b) (1) Before proceeding to perform the duties of their office, the presidential electors
570 who are present shall fill any vacancy in the office of elector, whether the vacancy is caused by absence or
580 other reason.

590 (2) An individual appointed to fill a vacancy is entitled to all rights and privileges of
600 the duly elected electors.

610 (c) After taking the oath prescribed by Article I, § 9 of the Maryland Constitution before the
620 Clerk of the Court of Appeals or, in the Clerk's absence, before one of the Clerk's deputies, the presidential
630 electors shall cast their votes for ~~the candidates for~~ President and Vice President ~~who received a plurality of~~
640 ~~the votes cast in the State of Maryland.~~

650 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2001.

660 MANDATES: Governor Parris Glendening
670 Lt. Governor Kathleen Kennedy Townsend
680 State Senate President Thomas V. Miller
690 House of Delegates Speaker Casper Taylor

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