

**A011-0102**

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  
300 State 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 INDIVIDUALLY AND WITH THE NAMES OF ~~A vote for~~ the candidates for  
370 President and Vice President ~~of~~ WHO NOMINATED SAID ELECTORS DIRECTELY OR THROUGH

380 THEIR a political party shall be deemed to be and counted as a vote for each of the presidential electors of  
390 the political party nominated in accordance with § 8-503 of this subtitle. ELECTORS SHALL BE  
400 ELECTED BY THE 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  
450 AS SAID VOTER CLEARLY INDICATES WHICH POSITION EACH CANDIDATE  
460 SHOULD HAVE ACCORDING TO SAID VOTERS INTENTIONS AND SAID VOTER HAS  
470 ALSO CAST A WRITE-IN 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  
500 VOTERS WHO WROTE IN SAID ELECTOR'S NAME INDICATED THEIR INTENTIONS  
510 FOR PRESIDENT AND 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  
580 absence or 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 November 30, 2002.

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

Sponsor:

Jeffrey Noel-Nosbaum

Western Maryland College

Box 624

Westminster, MD 21157-4390

(410) 751-8640

[inn001@wmdc.edu](mailto:inn001@wmdc.edu)

Co-Sponsors:  
Federalist Caucus  
Mehri Shadman, Caucus Leader  
1418 South Campus Commons  
4230 Knox Rd.  
College Park MD 20742  
(301) 226-0310  
[mshadman@wam.umd.edu](mailto:mshadman@wam.umd.edu)