

10 AN ACT CONCERNING

20 **Absentee Voting Ballots - Postage**

30 FOR the purpose of preventing voting by absentee ballot in Maryland from being cost prohibitive.

40 BY adding to  
50 Article – Election Law  
60 Title 9 - Voting  
70 Subtitle 3 – Absentee Voting  
80 Annotated Code of Maryland

90 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE MARYLAND STUDENT LEGISLATURE

100 §9-310 – Absentee Voting

110 (a) An absentee ballot shall be enclosed in specially printed envelopes, the form and content of which  
120 shall be prescribed by the State Board.

130 (b) (1) A local board may use either two envelopes or three envelopes.

140 (2) If two envelopes are used, the inner envelope shall be designated the “ballot/return  
150 envelope”, and, when issued, it shall fit inside the envelope designated the “outgoing envelope”.

160 (3) If three envelopes are used, the innermost envelope shall be designated the “ballot  
170 envelope”, which shall fit inside the envelope designated the “return envelope”, both of which, when  
180 issued, shall fit inside the envelope designated the “outgoing envelope”.

190 (c) When voted and returned to the local board, an absentee ballot shall be enclosed in a ballot  
200 envelope or ballot/return envelope, on which has been printed an oath prescribed by the State Board.

210 (D) ABSENTEE BALLOT RETURN ENVELOPES WILL HAVE POSTAGE PROVIDED

220 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2009

230 **MANDATES:** Martin O. Malley, Governor of Maryland  
240 Douglas F. Gansler, Attorney General of Maryland  
250 Robert L. Walker, Chairman, Maryland Board of Elections

**SPONSOR:**  
Lt. Governor Jessica Curtis, McDaniel College

**CO-SPONSOR:**  
Speaker of the House Matt Emery, McDaniel College  
Joseph Byrd, McDaniel College