

CHAPTER 2

(Senate Bill 166)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Sections 3-8, 4A-3, 5-1, 5-2 (a), 7-1 (e), 8-4, 9-1, 17-2 (a), 17-5 (a), 17-5 (c), 22-1 (b) and 26-18 (a) of Article 33 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume), title "Election Code," subtitles "Registration of Voters—General Provisions," "Certificate of Candidacy," "Primary Elections," "Nominations by Petition," "Certificates of Nomination," "Vacancies in Nomination—In General," "Board of Canvassers," "House of Representatives," and "Fair Election Practices," to provide that the issuance by the Governor of a proclamation directing that a special primary election and special election be held to fill a vacancy in the office of Representative in Congress, to provide for the dates for such elections, to make corrections in the Election Code in light of a special primary election and a special election, to provide for the costs of a special primary election and special election if such are held prior to July 1, 1971, and relating generally to the Election Code and special primary and special elections to fill vacancies in the office of Representative in Congress.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Sections 3-8, 4A-3, 5-1, 5-2 (a), 7-1 (e), 8-4, 9-1, 17-2 (a), 17-5 (a), 17-5 (c), 22-1 (b) and 26-18 (a) of Article 33 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume), title "Election Code," subtitles "Registration of Voters—General Provisions," "Certificate of Candidacy," "Primary Elections," "Nomination by Petition," "Certificates of Nomination," "Vacancies in Nominations—In General," "Board of Canvassers," "House of Representatives," and "Fair Election Practices," be and they are hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

3-8.

(a) No person may register or, if registered, change his address or name after the fifth Monday preceding or during the ten days following a primary or special *primary* election; nor may he register, or, if registered, change his address or name after the fifth Monday preceding or during the fifteen days following a general or *special* election.

(b) Voters already registered as declines who wish to affiliate with a party, or voters who wish to change their party affiliation, or voters who wish to change from affiliation with a party to registration as a decline, may do so at any time prior to six months before any *regular* election or, in the case of a *special primary* and *special election* pursuant to Section 22-1 (b) of this Article, at any time prior to the date on which the Governor issues a proclamation directing that such elections be held.

4A-3.

Except as otherwise provided herein, [Certificates] certificates of candidacy shall be received and filed in the office of the appropriate board not later than nine p.m. on the Monday which is ten weeks or seventy days before the day on which the primary election should