



Carroll County Board of Elections



1135 Business Parkway South, Suite 60, Westminster, MD 21157
Mailing Address: PO Box 3191, Westminster, MD 21158

Phone: (410) 386-2080
Email: ccboe@carrollcountymd.gov
Website: elections.carrollcountymd.gov

AGENDA*

Carroll County Board of Elections
1135 Business Parkway South, Suite 60, Westminster
Wednesday, February 18, 2026
10:00 am

- I. Call Meeting to Order and Declaration of Quorum
- II. Welcome
- III. Additions to the Agenda
- IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - a. January 21, 2026 – Open Meeting
- V. Correspondence
- VI. Attorney Report
- VII. Election Directors' Report
- VIII. Unfinished Business
- IX. New Business
- X. Disclosure of Campaign Contributions
- XI. Adjournment – Open Meeting
- XII. Closed Meeting

**This Agenda is subject to change*

Closed Meeting: A portion of the meeting will be closed in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Title 10, Subtitle 5, section §3-305(b), to protect the privacy or reputation of individuals with respect to a matter that is not related to public business.

Public Participation: Members of the public may address the Board. Pursuant to §3.2B of the Board's bylaws, public participation at a meeting must be pre-scheduled and pre-approved by the President. To request approval to speak at a board meeting, contact Erin Perrone at 410-386-2081 or by email erine.perrone@maryland.gov no later than 5 pm the day before the meeting.



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Election Directors' Report Wednesday, February 18, 2026

Public Information Requests

- Imane Houman – voter who requested her own voting history – Requested 1/20/2026, Fulfilled 1/26/26

Important Meetings and Events

- January 29th - Erin, Jen & staff – Critical Data Oversight Training with SBE
- February 4th - Erin & Jen – Weekly Check-in with Katie
- February 11th – Erin & Jen – Weekly Check-in with Katie
- February 16th – Holiday – President's Day – Office Closed
- February 17th – Erin, Jen & Staff – MAEO Meeting
- February 19th – Erin & Jen – In-person Collaboration Meeting with SBE
- February 19th – State Board Meeting at 2 pm
- February 20th – "I Voted" Sticker Contest Winners Reception
- February 24th – Candidate Filing Deadline – Office open until 9 pm
- February 25th – Erin & Jen – Weekly Check-in with Katie
- March 3rd – Erin & Jen – Voter Registration Training & Election Judge Recruitment – Republican Central Committee – Westminster Senior Center at 6:30 pm
- March 4th – Mia – Voter Registration Training
- March 11th – Erin & Jen – Weekly Check-in with Katie
- March 11th – Jen – Mock Interviews at Liberty High School
- March 12th – Erin & Jen – Voter Information Session at Carroll Community College
- March 18th – Board Meeting
- March 19th – Erin & Jen – Collaboration Meeting with SBE

Candidate Filing – 2026 Gubernatorial Election

- Encourage candidates to make an appointment via our website
- Deadline to file is Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at 9 pm
- Candidates who have filed can be found on SBE's website at https://elections.maryland.gov/elections/2026/Primary_candidates/index.html

Voter Registration

- Monthly statistical reports are available on our website. The link to the reports is <https://elections.carrollcountymd.gov/monthlyStats.aspx>.
- Day to day electronic batches and processing mail

As of 01/31/2026	DEM	REP	UNA & OTHER	TOTAL
Active Voters	32,908	64,264	34,213	131,385
Inactive Voters	1,514	2,966	1,941	6,421
TOTAL	34,422	67,230	36,154	137,806

Volunteer Registration Training

- February 6th – Mia – virtual volunteer registration training for Alpha Kappa Alpha – 33 people attended

Mail-in Ballots

2026 Gubernatorial Primary Election

Date	Total MIBs	Domestic	UOCAVA	Non-Perm MIBs	Perm MIBs	Mailed	Web Delivery	In Person	Agent	Large Print
02/12/2026	15,470	15,356	114	58	15,412	13,776	1,690	2	0	2

Election Judges

- County paperwork
- Election Judge Parity Report
- Training will begin on Monday, April 6th

IT/Warehouse

- Practice Risk Limiting Audit (RLA)
- Quarterly charging
- Packing supplies for election judges

Voter Outreach Events

- High School Lunch Program

Legislation

- Handout of current election bills

Personnel

- Performance Evaluation Program (PEPs) – submitted by the deadline

County Government

- FY27 Budget – No update

2026 Board Meetings

- March 18, 2026 – Potential: Heather DeWees – Swearing of Board of Canvassers
- April 15, 2026 - Heather DeWees – Swearing of Board of Canvassers
- May 20, 2026

2026 Gubernatorial Elections – Important Dates

- Pre-Election Day MIB Canvass – Monday, June 1, 2026
- Primary Advanced Deadline to Register – Tuesday, June 2, 2026
- Primary Early Voting – Thursday, June 11 through Thursday, June 18, 2026
- Primary Election – Tuesday, June 23, 2026
- MIB Canvass 1 – Thursday, June 25, 2026
- Provisional Canvass – Wednesday, July 1, 2026
- MIB Canvass 2 & Certification – Monday, July 6, 2026
- Pre-Election Day MIB Canvass – Tuesday, October 13, 2026
- General Advanced Deadline to Register – Tuesday, October 13, 2026
- General Early Voting – Thursday, October 22 through Thursday, October 29, 2026
- General Election – Tuesday, November 3, 2026
- MIB Canvass 1 – Thursday, November 5, 2026
- Provisional Canvass – Thursday, November 12, 2026
- MIB Canvass 2 & Certification – Friday, November 13, 2026



Jared DeMarinis
State Administrator

Katherine Berry
Deputy Administrator

Michael Summers,
Chairman

Jim Shalleck, Vice
Chairman

Diane Butler

Victoria Jackson-

Stanley

Eric Bryant

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Maryland State Administrator of Elections Addresses Mis/Disinformation of the “Nationalization of Elections”

Annapolis, MD (February 6, 2026) — Recent events and high-profile press statements have suggested the possibility of nationalizing election administration in an attempt to cast doubts on election security maintained by the States. Before any misinformation or disinformation takes hold from these statements, the State Administrator of Elections, Jared DeMarinis, issued the following statement to provide corrective information:

The United States Constitution is clear: the authority to administer elections predominately resides with the States. The States administer and conduct elections each according to their laws and regulations, subject to limited Congressional authority. The President of the United States has no constitutional or statutory authority to nationalize Maryland’s elections and electoral processes.

As State Administrator of the Maryland State Board of Elections, I want to assure voters that we are dedicated to ensuring that all elections are run in a manner that is safe, secure, transparent and accessible for all eligible voters. We are guided by the principle enshrined in Maryland’s Declaration of Rights- “the right of the People to participate in the Legislature is the best security of liberty and the foundation of all free Government; . . . and every citizen having the qualifications prescribed by the Constitution, ought to have the right of suffrage.”

Additionally, statements on the presence of federal enforcement agents in and around polling locations may cause apprehension or anxiety for certain communities. This office is committed to protecting voters from undue harassment or intimidation regarding when they voted, how they voted, and who they voted for. Elections are the foundation of our democracy, and, in 2026, it is how we use our voice to determine the future of our State. All eligible voters have a Constitutional right to use their voice and their vote. Do not be deterred from voting due to a perceived threat against a community. Mail-in voting is a viable option and an alternative to in-person voting. Mail-in voting is safe, secure, convenient and legal. Don’t let the noise disenfranchise or silence your voice. This right was hard fought for over the course of our country’s history, and we do not take protecting that right lightly.

Again, Marylanders should feel confident in our election administration. Always verify the information you hear or see, whether on social media, from a friend, or any other source, with the trusted source of electoral information, the Maryland State Board of Elections. The Maryland State Board of Elections ensures Marylanders can exercise their constitutional right in a verified, open, transparent and empowering manner that is safe and secure.

For more information visit www.elections.maryland.gov .

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ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPORT

February 19, 2026

1. *Sullivan, et al., v. Summers, et al.*, No. 1:24-CV-00172 (D. Md.). Katherine Strauch Sullivan and David Morsberger, two registered voters from Maryland, filed suit against SBE in the federal district court in Maryland alleging that the Board's current regulation defining "electoral process" for voter registration list purposes violates the National Voter Registration Act and First Amendment. The complaint, filed January 18, 2024, seeks declaratory and injunctive relief restricting enforcement of the regulation.

On March 8, 2024, OAG filed a motion to dismiss on behalf of SBE. The plaintiffs filed a response in opposition on March 29, 2024. OAG filed a final reply on April 12, 2024.

On August 30, 2024, plaintiffs filed a motion for summary judgment on a stipulated set of facts. OAG replied in opposition to the motion on September 13, 2024. The plaintiffs filed a reply to that opposition on September 23, 2024.

On March 4, 2025, the district court issued a memorandum opinion and order granting plaintiffs' motion as to Count I; and, denying SBE's motion as to Count I. The court ruled that the regulation is preempted by the National Voter Registration Act. The parties were also ordered to file a status report on their positions relating to the remaining counts.

On March 28, 2025, the parties filed a joint status report requesting the court dismiss the outstanding claims. The Court dismissed the outstanding claims, and issued a final judgment on Count I, on October 30, 2025.

On November 13, 2025, plaintiffs filed a motion requesting attorneys' fees. The parties thereafter negotiated a settlement agreement for the payment of attorneys' fees. That agreement, which has been executed by the parties, is being considered by the Board of Public Works for final approval at their February 18, 2026 meeting.

2. *Brian Della Rocca v. Susan Lee, et al.*, No. 25-1873 (4th Cir.)- On December 2, 2024, Brian Della Rocca filed a complaint against the Secretary of State of Maryland, Chairperson of the Maryland State Board of Elections, and Postmaster General of the United States, seeking to enjoin Maryland from using mail-in ballots in the conduct of its elections. Specifically, the complaint asserts that the United States Postal Service is so unreliable in delivering election mail to- and from voters, that its use to conduct mail-in balloting violated voters rights under the First and Fourteenth Amendments.

The plaintiff served the suit on Secretary Lee and Chairperson Summers on January 16, 2025. OAG filed a motion to dismiss the suit on behalf of both state officials on February 6, 2025. Plaintiff opposed the motion; OAG filed a reply to the opposition on March 5, 2025.

On April 11, 2025, the United States' Postmaster General, through the United States Attorney's Office, filed a motion to dismiss. Plaintiff opposed the Postmaster General's motion on June 09, 2025. On July 15, 2025, the district court granted both motions to dismiss, ruling that the plaintiff did not possess standing to maintain the claim.

Mr. Della Rocca appealed the matter the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. Appellant's brief was filed on October 8, 2025. OAG filed a brief on behalf the appellees on November 10, 2025. Mr. Della Rocca filed a reply brief on December 1, 2025.

On January 16, 2026, Mr. Della Rocca filed a letter under Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 28(j) noting supplemental authority for the case. OAG drafted a letter in response and filed it on January 26, 2026.

3. *California, et al., v. Trump, et al.*, 1:25-CV-010810 (D. Mass)- On April 3, 2025, nineteen states, including Maryland, filed a civil complaint in the federal district court for the District of Massachusetts against the President, the United States Attorney General, the Election Assistance Commission, and the United States Secretary of Defense. The complaint alleges, amongst seven counts, that the Executive Order imposing certain requirements on the conduct of voter registration and federal elections is unlawful.

On April 23, 2025, the defendants moved to consolidate the lawsuit with a second set of lawsuits filed in Washington D.C. that challenged the executive order. The court denied that motion on May 9, 2025.

On May 5, 2025, the plaintiff states asked the court for a preliminary injunction to pause implementation of provisions of the Executive Order while the lawsuit was pending. The court granted the preliminary injunction after a hearing. The defendants have appealed the grant of the preliminary injunction to the First Circuit.

Separately, on June 13, 2025, the defendants moved to dismiss the complaint. The plaintiff states filed a response in opposition on July 11, 2025. The Court conducted a hearing on the motion on September 4, 2025. On September 17, the Court issued a memorandum opinion and order denying the motion to dismiss.

Thereafter, the proceedings were stayed at the government's request due to the lapse in appropriations for the Department of Justice. That stay lifted when appropriations were reallocated to the Department.

On Friday, December 12, 2025, the parties filed cross-motions for summary judgment. OAG worked with SBE to provide a factual declaration on Maryland's behalf in support of the plaintiff-states' motion for summary judgment.

4. *California, et al., v. Trump, et al.*, 1:25-CV-010810 (1st Cir.)- This is the appeal of the preliminary injunction granted in the above matter. On October 7, 2025, the Government filed appellants' brief. However, soon after, the proceedings were stayed at the government's request due to the lapse in appropriations for the Department of Justice. That stay lifted when appropriations were reallocated to the Department.

The case is now fully briefed.

5. *Serena Bryson, et al., v. Westley Moore, et al.*, No. C-02-CV-25-001586 (Cir. Ct. Anne Arundel County). On June 2, 2025, five registered voters unaffiliated with a political party in Maryland served a civil action on the Governor and State Board of Elections. The suit alleges that the registered voters' electoral rights, granted by the Maryland Constitution, are violated by their inability to vote in state-run, partisan, primary elections. The voters accordingly seek declaratory judgment and an injunction preventing the State from "conducting, organizing or funding State primary elections in which unaffiliated voters are prohibited from voting."

OAG filed a motion to dismiss the complaint on July 30, 2025. Plaintiffs filed an opposition to the motion on August 29, 2025. A hearing on the motion took place on October 20, 2025.

On November 14, 2025, the Court granted the motion, dismissing the case in a memorandum opinion. Plaintiffs have appealed the case to the Appellate Court of Maryland.

On January 12, 2026, the unaffiliated voters filed a petition for a writ of certiorari in the Supreme Court of Maryland. The petition asks the Supreme Court to hear the appeal now, rather than waiting to potentially entertain the appeal after a judgment by the Appellate Court of Maryland. OAG filed an answer to the petition on January 27, 2026.

6. *The United States of America v. Jared DeMarinis*, No. 1:25-CV-03934 (D.Md.) On December 3, 2025, the United States Department of Justice filed suit against the State Administrator of Elections over his response to the department's multiple demands to disclose Maryland's unredacted voter registration database. The complaint alleges that the State is in violation of a provision of the Civil Rights Act of 1960 in declining to hand over the unredacted information, as demanded. With the complaint, DOJ filed a motion to compel records pursuant to the Civil Rights Act of 1960. The motion advocates that the Court must dispense with normal process and the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and instead must, in a summary fashion, simply compel production of the voter database.

By agreement between the parties, OAG filed a motion to dismiss and an opposition to the motion to compel on January 30, 2026. Two intervening defendants also filed motions to dismiss and oppositions to the motion to compel on the same date. DOJ filed a consolidated response to all the defendants' filings on February 13, 2026. The defendants may file a final reply on or before February 27, 2026.

7. *Republican National Committee, et al. v. Jared DeMarinis, et al.*, No. 1:25-CV-03989 (D.Md.) On December 5, 2025, the national and state entities of the Republican Party and two Republican voters registered in Maryland sued the State Administrator of Elections, State Board, and local boards of elections for Montgomery and Howard County. The complaint alleges that election officials in Maryland are violating the National Voter Registration Act ("NVRA") by failing to make reasonable efforts to remove eligible voters from the voter registration database. In support of that allegation, the complaint cites estimated population statistics and compares them to SBE's reported voter registration totals.

On January 12, 2026, The Democratic National Committee moved to intervene in the case as a defendant. The plaintiffs (RNC, Md. GOP, and voters) did not oppose the motion to intervene. OAG, on behalf of SBE, took no position on the motion. The motion remains pending before the Court.

OAG filed a motion to dismiss the complaint on January 30, 2026. The local boards of elections, through their counsel, also filed motions to dismiss on the same date. On February 2, 2026, the Court granted the pending motion to intervene, permitting the DNC to participate in the case as a defendant.

By agreement between the parties, the plaintiffs will file a consolidated response to the motions to dismiss on or before March 13, 2026. The defendants may then file replies on or before April 17, 2026.

Bill/Chapter (Cross/Chapter)	Title	Sponsor	Comments
HB0488	Election Districts - General Assembly and Representatives in Congress	Delegate Wilson	Redistricting Bill Fiscal Impact
SB0005 (HB0050)	General Assembly - Special Election to Fill a Vacancy in Office	Senator Kagan	
SB0029 (HB0044)	Election Law - Petitions and Ballot Questions - Contents, Plain Language Requirement, and Procedures	Senator Kagan	
SB0141 (HB0145)	Election Law - Election Misinformation, Election Disinformation, and Deepfakes	Senator Hester	
SB0255 (HB0350)	Voting Rights Act of 2026 - Counties and Municipal Corporations	Senator Sydnor	
Bills Above This Line Have Passed One Chamber and Crossed Over to the Other			
HB0265 (SB0091)	State Board of Elections - Address Confidentiality Program - Designation of Contact Person	Chair, Government, Labor, and Elections Committee	
HB0482	Legislative and Congressional Redistricting and Apportionment Commission (Fair Districts for Maryland Act)	Delegate Buckel	
HB0115 (SB0241)	Election Law - Individuals Released From State Correctional Facilities - Automatic Restoration of Voter Registration	Delegate Wilkins	
HB0156 (SB0132)	Election Law - Affiliating With a Party and Voting - Unaffiliated Voters	Delegate Fair	Fiscal Impact
HB0221	Election Law - Primary Elections - Change of Political Party Affiliation	Delegate Bouchat	
HB0052 (SB0089)	Election Law - Incarcerated Individuals - Voter Hotline and Voting Eligibility (Voting Rights for All Act)	Delegate Wilkins	
HB0219	Maryland Voting Rights Act of 2026 - Voter Intimidation and Suppression	Delegate Smith	

Bill/Chapter (Cross/Chapter)	Title	Sponsor	Comments
HB0333	General Assembly Vacancy - Political Party Central Committee - Procedures	Delegate Palakovich Carr	
HB0454	Election Law - Voter Registration Eligibility - U.S. Citizenship Verification (SAVE Our Elections Act of 2026)	Delegate Hornberger	
HB0462 (SB0567)	Elections - In-Person Voting - Proof of Identity	Delegate Long, R.	
HB0496	Election Law - Unaffiliated Voters - Open Primary Elections	Delegate Qi	
HB0565	County Boards of Education - Elections - District Voting (Fair Representation Act)	Delegate Long, J.	
HB0584	Clean Maryland Democracy Amendment	Delegate Stewart	
HB0689	Candidates for Representative in Congress - Certificate of Candidacy Filing Deadline for the 2026 Election - Alteration	Delegate Fair	Move the candidate filing deadline for Congressional candidates until March 20th
SB0073	Election Law - Polling Place Procedures - Voting by Elderly Voters and Voters With Disabilities (Accessible and Expedited Voting Act of Maryland)	Senator Ellis	
HB0621 (SB0443)	Local Boards of Elections - Board Counsel - Qualifications	Delegate Jones, D.	MAEO Bill
HB0641	Election Law - Curbside Voting - Pilot Program	Delegate Williams	Fiscal Impact
HB0662	Election Law - Election Judges - Compensation for Public School Students	Delegate Jones, D.	
HB0830	Election Law - Absentee Ballots - Signature Requirements and Verification	Delegate Long, R.	Fiscal Impact
HB0871	Election Law - Enhanced Automatic Voter Registration System	Delegate Stewart	
SB0670 (HB1001)	Election Law - Local Board of Elections Employees - Authority at Polling Places	Senator Kagan	MAEO Bill
SB0800 (HB1289)	Task Force on the Implementation of Approval Voting and Ranked-Choice Voting	Senator McKay	

Bill/Chapter (Cross/Chapter)	Title	Sponsor	Comments
SB0845	Maryland Voter Registration List Accuracy and Integrity Act	Senator Carozza	
SB0848	Municipal Elections - Information on Candidates and Voting Procedures and Locations	Senator Gallion	
SB0901 (HB1027)	Election Law - Telephone Voting System - Requirements	Senator Brooks	
SB0948	Election Law - Internet-Delivered Absentee Ballots - Information and Receipt Limitation	Senator Kagan	
SB0949 (HB1069)	Election Law - Canvassing of Absentee Ballots - Preemption by Federal Judicial Action	Senator Kagan	
HB0964	Secure the Vote Act of 2026	Delegate Grammer	
HB1010 (SB0236)	Election Law - Certification of Election-Supporting Technology - Regulations, Review, and Evaluation	Delegate Fair	
HB0056	Districting - Single-Member Districts and Legislative and Congressional Redistricting and Apportionment Convention	Delegate Bouchat	
HB0979	State Constitutional Convention - Question on Ballot - Passage by Majority of Votes Cast	Delegate Hornberger	
HB1163	Howard County - Voting Age - Board of Education Elections Ho. Co. 5-26	Howard County Delegation	
HB1403	Election Law - Initiative Process	Delegate McComas	
HB1407	Election Law - Absentee Ballots - Notice of Timely	Delegate Rosenberg	
SB0104	Legislative and Congressional Redistricting and Apportionment Commission (Fair Districts for Maryland Act)	Senator Hershey	
SB0888	Election Districts - General Assembly and Representatives in Congress	Senator Lam	