

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 18-0065R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmember Cohen, President Young, Councilmembers Henry, Costello, Scott, Burnett, Pinkett, Bullock, Stokes, Sneed, Dorsey, Clarke, Reisinger, Middleton, Schleifer

Introduced and adopted: February 5, 2018

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

Request for State Action – Automatic Voter Registration

FOR the purpose of declaring the City Council’s support for HB 152, the Safe and Accessible Registration Act, and calling the Baltimore delegation and all State Legislators to action during the Maryland General Assembly in voting for HB 152 to ensure all residents have safe, secure, and easily accessible voter registration.

Recitals

The fundamental right of American citizens to vote faces challenges across the country. Legislators in other states have introduced legislation to restrict the vote. Maryland has the opportunity to expand safe and secure access to the polls that ensures as many people legally allowed to vote can do so by passing the Safe and Accessible Registration Act (SARA).

SARA will:

- Seamlessly register Marylanders, or update their registrations during voter registration processes;
- Ensure more Marylanders become registered through an opt-out rather than opt-in mechanism;
- Ensure cleaner more accurate voting rolls when residents move within Maryland; and
- Provide a safe and secure voter registration system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the Council supports HB 152, the Safe and Accessible Registration Act, and calls the Baltimore delegation and all State Legislators to action during the Maryland General Assembly in voting for HB 152 to ensure all residents have safe, secure, and easily accessible voter registration.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Governor, the Honorable Chairs and Members of the Baltimore City House and Senate Delegations to the Maryland General Assembly, the President of the Maryland Senate, the Maryland House Speaker, the Mayor, and the Mayor’s Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter deleted by amendment.