



Support Local Options to Address Misassigned Voters

At-A-Glance

Senate Legislation:
SB1102 (Peake)

Scope:
Allows localities with misassigned voters to make individual adjustments

Impact:
~1,500 voters statewide

Latest House Action:
February 14: Subcommittee recommended reporting by a vote of 4-2

Upcoming House Action:
February 15: Vote by Privileges and Elections

Next Step for VML Members
Contact your local delegate and members of the House Committee on Privileges and Elections to support SB1102

Overview

Over the summer of 2018, Senator Mark Peake invited representatives from VML, VACo, and general registrars to develop a bill to address ongoing issues with misassigned voters. The resulting bill, SB1102, would give localities the option of working together to decide how to correct boundary issues on a parcel-by-parcel basis, rather than relying solely on Census boundaries.

Concerns

VML believes that voters should have the opportunity to elect representatives in the same locality where they reside. As we learned in 2018, Census boundaries occasionally do not align with jurisdictional boundaries. At the local level, this results in misassigned voters effectively being taxed without representation.

VML requests that members contact their local delegates and members of the House Committee on Privileges and Elections to support SB1102 before tomorrow's Committee meeting.

Key Points

- Roughly 1,500 voters across the Commonwealth, largely in exurban and rural areas, have been misassigned to local electoral districts in a different county from where they currently pay taxes.
- Voters deserve the chance to elect the representatives whose decisions will impact their local taxes, schools, and communities.
- Localities with misassigned voters should have the option to reach agreements about how to correct issues on an individual, parcel-by-parcel basis.
- ***VML supports SB1102 and urges the House Committee on Privileges and Elections to support the bill.***

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