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February 18, 2021

Chair Paul G. Pinsky  
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee  
Maryland State Senate  
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 West  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chair Pinsky, Vice-Chair Kagan, and Committee Members:

**I am writing to you on behalf of The Arc Central Chesapeake Region in SUPPORT of SB271 – Election Law – Voting Systems – Accessibility for Voters with Disabilities.**

The Arc Central Chesapeake Region serves over 2,500 children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families in Anne Arundel County and Maryland's Eastern Shore. The Arc Central Chesapeake Region's mission is to promote respect, create opportunities, facilitate services and advocate for equal rights for all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

People with disabilities have continued to face inequalities within our voting systems and the ability to successfully cast their vote. SB271 would ensure that people with disabilities have equal access to voting systems and access to the appropriate devices to cast their vote throughout the state. SB271 will also include that these devices and procedures be accessible at both early voting centers and Election Day polling places.

Across the nation, people with disabilities are often dissuaded from participating within our election system due to the lack of access, support, and proper equipment and procedures in place to assist them in casting their vote. SB271 would ensure that people with disabilities have equal access to all aspects of life, including the right to civic engagement.

We ask for your support this session by voting in favor of SB271 and voting in favor of equal access for people with disabilities across Maryland.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Jonathon Rondeau'.

Jonathon Rondeau  
President & CEO

*Achieve With Us.®*