

CORY V. MCCRAY  
Legislative District 45  
Baltimore City

Budget and Taxation Committee

Capital Budget Subcommittee  
Health and Human Services Subcommittee



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**Vote Yes on Senate Bill 525**

**Bill Title: Baltimore City - Centralized Booking Facility - Voting Information and Early Voting Polling Place**

**Hearing Date: February 18, 2021, EHEA**

Chair, Vice Chair and members of the committee,

I write to you today in **support** of Senate Bill 525. In 2015, the Maryland General Assembly passed Senate Bill 340 and House Bill 980, Election Law - Voting Rights - Ex-Felons, which simplified the process to vote for those who had been formerly incarcerated. The bill became law in 2016 after the General Assembly overrode the Governor's Veto. In doing so, our Legislature increased access to democracy to thousands of Marylanders. A concern remains, however, regarding those who are currently incarcerated, who are eligible to vote. It became evident during the 2020 election that there are thousands of eligible voters currently in our correctional system who are disenfranchised.

Senate Bill 525 would require the Baltimore City centralized booking facility to disseminate written information on voter registration and voting instructions directly to each eligible voter incarcerated at said facility. The Bill would further require the Baltimore City Board of Elections, in collaboration with the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, to establish the Baltimore City Central Booking Facility as an early voting site.

In efforts to ensure that the fundamental right of voting is as inclusive as possible, we hope that you will move for a **favorable** report of Senate Bill 525.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cory V. McCray'.

Cory V. McCray  
State Senator