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**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE
IN SUPPORT OF**

**HB 1205 – ELECTIONS – 2020 PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL ELECTION –
REPORT ON USE OF MAIL-IN BALLOTS**

March 9, 2021

Get Money Out (GMOM) is an all-volunteer organization established eight years ago. We want all citizens to have equal access to the ballot and an equal say in governance. Through our grassroots actions, we have signed up over 9,000 supporters.

A core goal of GMOM is to making voting as secure and accessible as possible. These goals are not achieved overnight but instead take time and study to see the best ways for the populace to vote. It is perhaps an understatement to claim that 2020 was a year unlike any other. Our elections systems had to change at an unprecedented pace. Now that we are on the other side of the 2020 elections it's time to reflect on what happened. Due to this, GMOM supports **HB 1205**.

The request of HB 1205 is quite simply asking for a report from the State Board of Elections on the 2020 elections. Some of the topics of interest include but are not limited to: number of requested mail-in ballots, number of drop boxes, and any process of verification that was used.

Currently, we have numerous bills calling for changing to the voting system after the 2020 elections, many of which GMOM has supported. Some of us want to act quickly without taking the step of reflection. It is reasonable and prudent to examine carefully what happened under the emergency procedures. The data gathered by **HB 1205** from the State Board of Elections can help the State better shape and target the policies so that the people of Maryland can both have access and security.

We urge a favorable report on **HB 1205**.