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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
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**Testimony in Support of HB949 - Campaign Finance - Collections by Membership Entities  
- Non Campaign Political Activity**

HB949 clarifies Maryland campaign law to grant membership entities additional flexibility in how they collect campaign related donations with their membership dues. Currently, membership organizations such as the Maryland REALTORS charge members for a political contribution along with their membership dues. Unlike the other portion of membership dues, political contributions to the PAC must be voluntary.

The bill doesn't otherwise affect any contribution paid outside of member dues billing. In addition, for the first time, the bill places a cap on the amount of the political contribution paid with the dues bill – limiting it to no more than 25% of the total dues bill.

For these reasons, I ask for a favorable report on HB949.