

The Honorable Anne Kaiser, Chair
And Members of the
Ways and Means Committee
Maryland House of Delegates
Annapolis, Maryland

RE: HB 1192 – Require Signature Verification for Absentee Ballots – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Kaiser and Members of the Committee,

HB 1192- that requires verification of the signature of the voter on the Absentee Ballot Application and Ballot is a valuable enhancement to ballot and election security. At a time when more voters are using Absentee Ballots it is vitally important that the election board verify that the person casting that ballot is actually the registered voter named. Having signature verification of Absentee Ballot applications and ballots will increase confidence of voters that their vote will count and not be crossed-out by someone fraudulently voting in another person's name.

The bill also requires the State Board of Elections provide equipment for verifying the signature that will aid local Boards of Elections to verify signatures in a timely fashion.

Please give HB 1192 a Favorable Report.

Sincerely,
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