



PROGRESSIVE MARYLAND

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Testimony on Maryland House Bill 53 Election Law - Voting Rights - Imprisoned Felons

TO: Del. Kaiser, Chair, and members of the House Ways and Means Committee
FROM: Lawrence Maynard, Progressive Maryland Justice Taskforce Leader,
Prince George's County (D26)
DATE: January 22, 2021
POSITION: Support

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on HB 53. Progressive Maryland is a grassroots, nonprofit organization with 9 chapters from Frederick to the Lower Shore and more than 100,000 members and supporters who live in nearly every legislative district in the state. In addition, there are dozens of affiliated community, faith, and labor organizations across the state that stand behind our work. Our mission is to improve the lives of working families in Maryland. Please note our strong support for this bill.

My name is Lawrence Maynard, I am currently and have been for the last thirty-nine years a resident of Prince George's County. I am in full support of allowing individuals convicted of a felony and serving a court-ordered sentence of imprisonment for the conviction to register to vote.

I am a returning citizen, but during my incarceration was given the opportunity to vote in the District of Columbia for mayor. I strongly support HB 53.

We urge a favorable report.