

BRIAN E. FROSH
Attorney General



ELIZABETH F. HARRIS
Chief Deputy Attorney General

CAROLYN QUATTROCKI
Deputy Attorney General

STATE OF MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

FACSIMILE NO.

WRITER'S DIRECT DIAL NO.

410-576-6584

February 23, 2022

TO: The Honorable Paul G. Pinsky
Chair, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

FROM: Hannibal G. Williams II Kemerer
Chief Counsel, Legislative Affairs, Office of the Attorney General

RE: SB 358 – Public Financing Act – State Senate and House of Delegates – **Support**

Chair Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan, and distinguished members of the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee, we write to urge your favorable report on Senate Bill 358. This legislation, introduced by Senator Pinsky, would extend the public financing program to candidates for the General Assembly.

Public financing was extended to gubernatorial candidates last session (Senate Bill 415 (2021)) and tends to reduce a candidate's need to raise campaign finances through moneyed interests. It inures to the benefit of both General Assembly aspirants and voters alike.

For the foregoing reasons, we urge a favorable report on SB 358.

cc: Committee Members