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Prince George's County

Judiciary Committee



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 2nd, 2022

The Honorable Delegate Luke Clippinger  
Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee  
6 Bladen Street, Room 101  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**House Bill 518**

Good afternoon, Chair Clippinger, Vice Chair Moon, and members of the House Judiciary Committee. I am Delegate Nicole Williams of District 22, and I am testifying today in favor of **House Bill 518**, also known as **Register of Wills - Maximum Salary - Increase**. This legislation would raise the ceiling for the maximum annual salary that the Board of Public Works sets for a register of wills. A register of wills provides essential services to the community by having jurisdiction over judicial probate, administration of estates, and handling the conduct of personal representatives.

There has not been an increase in the salary offered to a register of wills since before the COVID-19 pandemic. As their salary currently stands, a register of wills may not earn more than \$124,500 in a year. This bill would raise that amount to \$146,500, representing a 17.7 percent increase in salary.

By increasing the salary of a register of wills, we can ensure that positions in public administration remain sought after and that those who are currently employed receive competitive pay. In addition, an increase in salary shows our recognition of their hard work and the critical role that they play in our communities.

For these reasons, I urge the committee to give a favorable report on House Bill 518.

Sincerely,

*Nicole A. Williams, Esq.*

Delegate Nicole A. Williams, Esq.