



Maryland Retired School Personnel Association

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**House Bill 113
In Opposition Of
Elections – In Person Voting – Proof of Identity
House Ways and Means Committee
Hearing: January 25, 2022 1:00 p.m.**

Dear Honorable Delegate Vanessa Atterbeary, Chair, and Honorable Delegate Alonzo Washington, Vice Chair, and other distinguished Ways and Means Committee members,

The Legislative Committee of the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association (MRSPA) oppose HB 113 Elections – In Person Voting – Proof of Identity.

This bill, which on its surface would appear to be a reasonable request to provide identification at a polling place or early voting center, is an unreasonable request for older citizens. Many of these citizens no longer have a driver's license; and many are no longer living in their homes or do not even have access to other forms of Identification, as would be required by this bill.

AARP is also in opposition to this bill stating that, "the older you get, the more likely you won't have an ID". They found that one in five citizens over the age of 65 lack a current government issued photo ID. Adding this layer of bureaucracy would most likely prevent or discourage some older Marylanders from voting, thus silencing their voices.

In addition, this bill and other bills related to voting seem to be looking for a problem that does not exist in Maryland. Maryland is noted for its fair and honest elections. We can be proud of the way we conduct our elections and need no assistance from bills such as these.

On behalf of the almost 13,000 members of the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association, we urge your opposition to HB113. We will continue to monitor other bills related to our elections.

Sincerely,

George D. Denny, Jr
President

Virginia G. Crespo
Legislative Aide