

Good afternoon, Chair and members of the Committee. My name is James Coyle, and I am a resident of Washington County, Maryland. I'm testifying in support of House Bill 1119.

House Bill 1119, which would require posting of aerial photos of polling places with lines indicating the electioneering boundaries, would be useful to candidates and their volunteers, particularly when such volunteers are sent to cover polling places with which they are not familiar. While some localities clearly delineate the electioneering boundaries, this is not always the case. When the boundaries are not clearly marked, candidates and their volunteers may place signs and/or stand either too close or too far from the polling place. Another matter is that some polling places are at locations where it is very hard to define just what the electioneering boundary is. I worked at one polling place where the electioneering boundary was actually the edge of a major road, meaning to be outside the boundary literally meant standing in the road.

I believe House Bill 1119 is a common-sense measure in the administration of elections, and I urge a favorable report from the Committee.

Thank you.