

ADDIE C. ECKARDT
Legislative District 37
Caroline, Dorchester, Talbot,
and Wicomico Counties



Annapolis Office
James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street, Room 322
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3590 • 301-858-3590
800-492-7122 Ext. 3590
Fax 410-841-3087 • 301-858-3087
Adelaide.Eckardt@senate.state.md.us

Budget and Taxation Committee

Health and Human Services
Subcommittee

Joint Committees

Administrative, Executive,
and Legislative Review

Audit

Children, Youth, and Families

Fair Practices and
State Personnel Oversight

Pensions

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

District Office
601 Locust Street, Suite 202
Cambridge, Maryland 21613
410-221-6561

Testimony for Senate Bill 464
Commemorative Days - Maryland Voting Equity Reform Day
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
March 5, 2020

Chairman Pinsky and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present Senate Bill 464: Commemorative Days – Maryland Voting Equity Reform Day. This bill designates the fourth Tuesday in October as a commemorative day in celebration of voting reform in Maryland.

In 1986, the Maryland Constitution was amended to remove the requirement that all county commissioners and council members be elected through at-large voting. Statewide, at-large voting effectively disenfranchised our minority and rural populations.

Ten men from Northern Dorchester County led the effort to amend the Maryland Constitution in 1986. Senate Bill 464 celebrates and commemorates the efforts of these men. In addition, this bill celebrates voting equity for our minority and rural citizens across Maryland.

I respectfully ask for a favorable report of Senate Bill 464. Thank you.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Addie Eckardt".

Senator Addie Eckardt