



**TESTIMONY FOR SB0037
ELECTION LAW – REGISTERED VOTER LIST SECURITY AND ELECTRONIC
SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS FOR PETITIONS**

Bill Sponsor: Senator Carter

Committee: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Cecilia Plante, co-chair

Position: **FAVORABLE**

I am submitting this testimony in favor of SB0037 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

Coalition members are generally very active participants in election work and also in getting ballot petition signatures. This bill makes the process of getting signatures on ballot petitions easier by allowing for electronic signatures. We understand that this process was created due to the pandemic, but it has been successful and should become permanent. Having more people engaged and empowered to support people and ideas that affect our state is a positive thing.

Many of our member groups also do canvassing and phone banking and work with the voter lists. We think it is important to make sure that the voter data should be secure and only used to support the voting process.

We support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.