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HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE  
HOUSE BILL 0095: ELECTION JUDGES- TRAINING AND SIGNS-  
ACCOMMODATIONS FOR VOTERS IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE  
JANUARY 24, 2023  
POSITION: SUPPORT

The Arc Maryland is the largest statewide advocacy organization dedicated to protecting and advancing the rights and quality of life of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Arc Maryland supports House Bill 0095, as we believe it will help to remove barriers people with disabilities experience to exercising their right to vote.

HB0095 requires that training materials shall be provided to election judges include information on the various ways that an election judge can provide accommodations and/or assistance to older adults and people with disabilities to vote. Further, HB0095 will require the State Board of Elections to develop and post signs at polling places that include information about the ways in which election judges can provide assistance and accommodations to voters with disabilities upon request. The bill contains specific information about the size of each sign and locations where the signs may be placed. **It is also important that the signs contain information in a large, clear font, are printed on non-glare paper, and include Braille for blind and sight-impaired voters.**

This legislation is important because it will enhance equity and access for older adults and people with disabilities to exercise the fundamental right to vote. The training materials will ensure that election judges and poll workers are informed of the ways in which they may assist voters with disabilities, tailored for what is possible within each polling place.

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