3/26/24

TO: All members of the Senate Education Energy & Environment Committee

FROM: Christine Hunt Jay Crouthers 1014 Dockser Drive Crownsville, MD 21032

RE: HB0333 - Election Law - Election Disinformation and Improper Influence Related to Voting

Dear Senators,

We are in opposition of HB0333.

We find this bill is an opportunity for the same kind of abuse that citizens across the nation were subjected to, during 2020 to the present, regarding information about the 2020 presidential election and the Covid outbreak. The truth, about information that was withheld on social media platforms, is still coming out.

Having the State be in charge of determining what is "misinformation", as submitted by members of the public, is purely subjective and can be extremely biased based on who is in charge of deciding what is misinformation or not. The "corrective information" could be misinformation if the entities in charge of issuing "corrective information" wanted to influence an election outcome. It gives the State power to spread propaganda or potentially prosecute those with whom they simply disagree. Not everyone's truth is the same.

Regarding 16-201, (B): Is not the list of ways that someone could vote fraudulently already against the law? Isn't this already covered by the Local and State Board of Elections?

A better use of our tax payer money would be to clean up the voter roles and remove all those who are deceased and have the correct mailing addresses for all registered voters as a start.

Sincerely,

Christine Hunt Jay Crouthers