



Get Money Out – Maryland

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**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 605- ELECTION LAW –
AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION - ALTERATIONS–**

February 21, 2024

By Charlie Cooper, President

Get Money Out–Maryland is an all-volunteer force seeking to get big money out of our political system and make elections fairer. Ten thousand Marylanders have actively supported our work. We believe that every citizen should have equal access to the ballot as a voter or as a candidate. We also work to regulate the role of big money in our elections and to reduce the disproportionate influence of concentrated wealth on our political system.

This bill is patterned on systems that are already implemented with remarkable success in states of all “colors” from Alaska to Massachusetts. It registers more new voters and keeps addresses more accurate on the voter rolls than Maryland’s current system. As written, it would apply to the Motor Vehicle Administration and the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, but it is easily adaptable to other agencies such as the Department of Corrections and Public Safety. The truly automatic registration gets more citizens engaged as registered voters, but it is still easy to opt out for those who desire. It takes the stress out of the voter registration process.

We strongly urge the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee to issue a favorable report for SB 605.