People on the Go of Maryland Maryland

HB 142

Election Law - Polling Places Establishing Voter Identity (Voter Privacy Act of 2024)

Authorizing a voter to establish the voter's identity at the request of an election judge at a polling place, by presenting the voter's registration card, a valid Maryland driver's license, or certain other identification that contains a photograph.

Position: Opposed
January 25, 2024
Sponsored by Delegate R. Long
Assigned to House Ways and Means Committee
Written by Lee Cody Drinkwater

Honorable Chairperson, and distinguished members of the House Ways and Means Committee:

People On the Go of Maryland (POG) is a statewide self-advocacy organization, ran for and by those with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (IDD), and our mission is to promote self advocacy throughout the state.

People On the Go provides this written testimony and respectful opposition to House Bill 142 (HB 142).

POG opposes this HB142 because not everyone with a disability will have access to a voter registration card, a valid Maryland drivers license, or certain other identification that contains a photograph.

Some of these items cost money to obtain, and not all those with disabilities will have the funds to obtain them. We feel this could be discriminatory against those with disabilities, as not having these items could exclude disabled persons from the polling process.

Therefore, People On the Go strongly advises an unfavorable report for HB 142. Thank you for your consideration.

Should you have any questions. Please contact Mat Rice.

Thank you,

Mat Rice, Executive Director

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