

HB0014 Election Law - Revisions

Ways and Means Committee – January 25, 2024

Sponsor: Delegate Vanessa Atterbeary

Position: Unfavorable

Testimony of Dawne Lindsey, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Allegany County

Thank you, Chairwoman Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and members of the committee, for this opportunity to testify on House Bill 14. For the record, my name is Dawne Lindsey, Clerk of the Circuit Court for Allegany County. I am representing the twenty-four elected Clerks of the Circuit Court for the state of Maryland.

The Clerks of the Circuit Court have reviewed the bill and would like to offer the following:

While we understand the intention of the proposed amendment, we must oppose line 8 and 9 that require the clerk to report on who is currently serving a court ordered sentence of imprisonment. This bill would require the clerks to provide information we simply do not have. Currently, we report to the State of Elections, names of individuals convicted of a felony, but we do not receive updates from detention centers of individuals currently serving a sentence. Therefore, we oppose the amendments because we do not have the information the proposed amendments to this bill are asking the clerks to provide.

We ask that you give HB00014 and Unfavorable response.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and I am available if you have any questions.