



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HB1303: Election Law - Local Boards of Elections - Compensation

Ways and Means

February 27th, 2024: 1:00 PM

Madam Chair, Madam Vice Chair, and members of the Ways and Means Committee, I am Delegate Brooke Grossman, and I am here to testify on behalf of HB1303. HB1303 would provide the necessary increase in compensation to Board of Elections members who dedicate their time, effort, and knowledge to ensuring that our elections operate smoothly. The bill simply stipulates that jurisdictions must pay their BOE members the greater amount of either: the annual salary already outlined in statute or pay the amount incurred for their work in canvassing, election day, and activities related to recounts. Many jurisdictions already provide adequate compensation to BOE members, however, there are compensation disparities that exist across the state. For example, the President of the Baltimore City BOE receives \$11,000 annually and regular members receive \$10,000 annually. In contrast, BOE members in Talbot County only receive \$600 annually. HB1303 ensures that BOE members, regardless of jurisdiction, are receiving fair and adequate compensation for their time, especially during election years.

BOE members work long days during the primary and general elections to ensure that Maryland's elections are accurate and timely in releasing electoral outcomes. This legislation ensures that our BOE officials receive fair and equitable compensation for their dedication to the success of our electoral system.

Therefore, **I urge a favorable report on HB1303.**