



Maryland Retired School Personnel Association

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House Bill 0202
In Opposition Of
Election Law – Absentee Ballots – Signature Requirements and Verification
Ways and Means Committee
Hearing: January 25, 2024 – 1:00 p.m.

Dear Honorable Delegate Vanessa Atterbeary, Chair, and Honorable Jheanelle Wilkins, Vice Chair and other distinguished Ways and Means Committee Members,

The Maryland Retired School Personnel Association Legislative Committee has statewide representation and provides leadership on legislative issues which affect our members and Maryland citizens. **We oppose HB 0202 Election Law – Absentee Ballots – Signature Requirement and Verification.**

This bill is a solution in search of a problem. State and local Boards of Election already have proper procedures in place to deal with an unsigned mail-in ballot. Placing more burden on the elections officials beyond what they are already doing is unnecessary and gives the appearance that the legislature does not trust the elections officials to properly do their jobs.

Maryland has held very successful elections regarding mail-in ballots with few if any issues related to unsigned ballots. Research proves this.

On behalf of the 12,000 members of the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association, we urge your opposition to HB 0202.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carla J. Duls".

Carla J. Duls
President

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Virginia G. Crespo".

Virginia G. Crespo
Legislative Aide