

HB0202_RichardKaplowitz_UNF

1/25/2024

Richard Keith Kaplowitz
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TESTIMONY ON HB#/0202 - POSITION: UNFAVORABLE
Election Law - Absentee Ballots - Signature Requirements and Verification

TO: Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and members of the Ways and Means Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3. I am submitting this testimony against HB#/0202, Election Law - Absentee Ballots - Signature Requirements and Verification

This bill is another that seems to be supporting the falsehood surrounding whether there is fraud being committed in voting in Maryland. It makes additional work for election workers that would be both time consuming and would require additional personnel when our local boards are struggling to recruit election judges now to conduct the election. A person's signature changes over their lifetime. Age and physical disability can affect it. My son is a stroke victim, he now signs with a non-dominant hand so no match to his original signature would be possible. Would this bill prevent him from voting since he has voted in every election for 30+ years?

The Maryland State Board of Elections documents all the steps they take to insure we have safe and valid elections, and this bill would contravene some of the secure measures that are primary methodology in voter protections.

https://www.elections.maryland.gov/about/election_security.html

This bill is unnecessary and only serves to respond to political falsehoods around the conduct of elections that do not occur in any number that would affect a Maryland election. **I respectfully urge this committee to return an unfavorable report on HB#/0202.**