

# Testimony Against HB0201

Honorable Delegates

Please vote against HB0201.

The Fiscal and Policy review last year estimated that sending an absentee ballot to every registered voter in Maryland (whether wanted or not), would cost at least \$1 million in 2026 and another \$1 million in 2028. Absentee ballots should be the exception and not the rule, and should only be issued by request.

Given the inaccurate status of each county's voter registration files, adopting this bill would further increase the chance for fraud. Other states have reported instances where multiple ballots are sent to one address, or sent to apartment buildings with no room numbers. These ballots are then collected and used to vote illegally. Without any signature verification, this type of voting via identity theft goes undetected.

Because of the cost plus the lack of identity and chain of custody controls, please vote against HB0201.

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