

**Testimony on SB 255/ HB 350**  
**Voting Rights Act of 2026**  
**Position: Favorable**

I believe voting dilution negatively impacts my small community in St. Mary's County, Maryland. I urge you to protect EVERY individual's voice against intimidation and discrimination with legislation that will help us forge a better path for our future. I want my young elementary-aged boys, born and raised in Maryland, to know Maryland takes voting rights seriously. Combatting vote dilution is an important and necessary step towards making a vision of a government that is truly of, by, and for the people a reality.

When anyone is systematically prevented from electing the candidates of their choice, entire communities are left without a voice in decisions that directly impact their lives.

Prohibiting vote dilution helps create a more inclusive and accountable democracy. I fully support the efforts of the General Assembly to fiercely and fairly defend equal access to the ballot. I respectfully urge a favorable report on SB 255.