

SB0758\_RichardKaplowitz\_FAV

03/05/2026

Richard Keith Kaplowitz

Frederick, MD 21703

**TESTIMONY ON SB#0758- POSITION: FAVORABLE**

**Common Ownership Communities - Candidate or Proposition Signs - Display Period**

**TO:** Chair Smith, Jr., Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

**FROM:** Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB#0758, **Common Ownership Communities - Candidate or Proposition Signs - Display Period**

I live in a senior retirement community in Frederick, Maryland. This bill is personal to me as I constantly fight my HOA over the content of signs on my property during political campaigns. They have specifically told me that issue signs are not permitted (“In this house we...”) and that signs must be removed within 7 days after an election even though counting of mail-in ballots and the certification of results may not take until ten days afterwards.

These restrictions on my ability to express myself has lead to their attempt to fine me for non-compliance and I had my lawyer correspond with them over the issue.

My signs are distressing to one of my neighbors who is a member of the current federal administration cult because of the opposition to everything being done to our democracy. But that should not give him and my HOA license to restrict my expression of my views.

There is an ongoing issue referendum I want to support and cannot, under the HOA rules, have a sign in my yard supporting that referendum on data center overlay expansion.

This bill will alter to 45 days before voting and early voting for a primary election, general election, or vote on a proposition, the time period during which a common ownership community may restrict the display of candidate or proposition signs.

**I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on SB#0758.**