

TESTIMONY

TO: Senator Paul G. Pinsky, Chair
Educating Health, and Environmental Affairs

FROM: Gregory L. Meekins **Gregory L. Meekins**
1344 Cambridge Beltway
Cambridge, MD 21613

Bill: Senate Bill 464 House Commemorative Days- Maryland Voting Equity Reform Day

Hearing: March 5, 2020

Position: Support

Dear Senator Pinsky and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Historical Freedom Shrine Advocacy Team I am pleased to support Senate Bill 464 which will be before your committee considering the Maryland Voting Equity Reform Day. As one of the "Ten" men that worked to help facilitate the amending of the State Constitution in 1986 to provide voting equity to all citizens of the counties of Maryland I support this legislation.

As a native of Dorchester County and former president of the Dorchester County NAACP where this initiative began, I believe will do much for this generation and the generation after us to remember and continuously promote the importance of voting equity in our State. This is particularly germane as we see assaults on voting access and equity in several jurisdictions around the country.

So that we don't forget the work of the "Ten" that has preceded us in this area so important to our democracy I respectfully solicit your Committee's favorable action of this bill. This action will be of tremendous value to Dorchester County and the State of Maryland.

Thank you in advance for your favorable consideration of SB 464.