



MARYLAND FEDERATION  
*of*  
Republican Women

The Honorable Anne Healey, Chairman, and Members, Rules and Executive Nominations

RE: HB182 – OPPOSE

Dear Delegates:

On behalf of the almost 1200 members of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women (MFRW), representing citizens from across Maryland, I am writing to ask you for an Unfavorable Report on HB182. While the members of the MFRW wholeheartedly support redistricting reform, we do not believe that Maryland needs to wait for any other State to commit to redistricting reform in order to reform our own process.

Marylanders deserve an open and fair Legislative and Congressional Redistricting process. We believe it is essential to establish a Legislative and Congressional Redistricting and Apportionment Commission as an independent unit of State government, composed of Democrats, Republicans and Unaffiliated Commission members, not beholden to an elected official or candidate, to develop constitutionally compliant legislative and congressional districts in an open process with input from citizens. We have seen not only in our own State but across the Country, in both blue and red states, that redistricting has repeatedly been used as a tool of the majority Party to protect and insure their continued majorities in both their Congress and the State Legislature.

In conclusion, the members of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women strongly oppose HB182 and ask for an Unfavorable Report in the hope that Maryland will not wait for someone else to do what the citizens want and instead will be proactive about fixing our current problem with redistricting and enact a process to create an independent Legislative and Congressional Redistricting and Apportionment Commission that will create maps that are fair to all Maryland citizens and take further steps to insure the creation of fair, compact, contiguous Legislative and Congressional districts, free from partisan influence.

Thank you,

*Diana D Waterman*

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