

The Honorable Paul Pinsky, Chairman, and Members, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

RE: SB 283 - OPPOSE

Dear Senators:

On behalf of the more than 1300 members of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women (MFRW), representing citizens from across Maryland, I am writing to ask you for Unfavorable Reports on SB 283.

SB 283 seems to be a solution looking for a problem. There are plenty of opportunities and ways for college students to register to vote and then to vote during elections. This bill will create more work for both local board of elections as well institutions of higher learning and military recruiting offices.

Our college students are not stupid and do not need to be treated as if they are. You can register to vote online (and I would imagine that every college student is literate in navigating the Internet) and you can apply to vote with an absentee ballot if you do not have transportation to get to the polls. In our current environment where costs are rising higher everyday and income is not, instituting unnecessary and expensive changes currently is unwarranted. The coronavirus pandemic has put a huge financial strain on our universities and colleges as well as on our government finances. Mandating that these schools add additional staff or assign additional duties to current staff and additional costs to implement this program seems like an excessive burden at this time.

In conclusion, the members of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women strongly oppose SB 283 and ask for an Unfavorable Report.

Thank you,

Diana D Waterman

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