

Please Support HB 655

Dear Chairwoman and members of the Senate EHE Committee,

I have been a St. Mary's County resident for 8 years, 7 of those years were in the Lexington Park area. As an active community member when I first moved to this county I researched the government structure, and was shocked to learn that every district commissioner was essentially an at-large representative. This county is incredibly diverse from the 7th district to Lexington Park and every voter deserves to have a commissioner that's not only from their district but elected by a plurality of votes from their district only. The President of the county commission should be the only at-large representative. The current system is undemocratic because it unjustly dilutes votes. This bill is about fair representation Senators period, point, blank. The only reason not to support this good pro-democracy legislation is the up-hold of the current power dynamic that has kept many in this community voiceless in local government. Senators, I strongly urge you to support a favorable report on HD 655. Be democracy champions, some issues rise above local courtesy. Please support local democracy in Maryland. Thank you

Sincerely,

Roderick C. Lewis Jr.
Community Member

Co-Chair, St. Mary's County NAACP Political Action Committee