



BILL: HB1058

**BILL TITLE: Public Ethics - Disclosures, Training, and Use of Confidential Information
(Integrity in High Office Act)**

BILL SPONSOR: Delegate Stewart

COMMITTEE: Environment and Transportation

POSITION: FAVORABLE

HEARING DATE: February 23, 2021

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF HB1058

Honorable Chair Barve, Vice-Chair Stein, and members of the committee,

Represent Maryland believes that holding public office should not be a pathway to personal enrichment through decisions that affect the public. Too many politicians are self-dealing. Although the practice is as old as American politics itself, that doesn't make it right.

We strongly believe that whenever an elected official personally benefits from their public job, there needs to be a public record of the circumstances leading to the benefit. Maryland government is supposed to be made-up of citizen law-makers so this loophole must be closed in order to protect the integrity of our systems.

Please find HB1058 favorable.

Sincerely,
Cristi Demnowicz, Chair
Represent Maryland
Maryland Voter-LD07

Represent Maryland is a grassroots anti-corruption group of citizen advocates that #FightForDemocracy in Maryland. Our democracy solutions include: Public Election Funds, Independent Redistricting, Special Elections, Ranked Choice Voting, Increased Ethics and Transparency, and Increased Voter Participation. Learn more about our work at www.RepresentMaryland.org
Authorized by Represent Maryland PAC, T Miller, Treasurer