



**Bill Number:** SB0158

**BILL TITLE:** Time Off for Employee Voting

**BILL SPONSOR:** Senator Lee

**POSITION:** FAVORABLE

**COMMITTEE:** Finance

**HEARING DATE:** January 20, 2021

**TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB0158**

Cristi Demnowicz, Chair

Represent Maryland

Represent Maryland is an all-volunteer, member and individual donor-funded group of activists and advocates who fight for democracy at the local and state level. We formed in 2015 to fight against the influence of big money in politics and to ensure that everyone can participate in our democratic system of governance, regardless of financial status.

We support Senator Lee's goal of giving employees time off to vote. This will address one of the barriers that may keep a citizen from voting. We should always strive to improve voter turnout, so by increasing accessibility to voting we expect voter turnout to increase as well.

Furthermore, all businesses who consider themselves "good corporate citizens" should be eager to give employees time off to vote, in order to support and encourage their civic participation. Please help increase voting accessibility by finding SB0158 favorable.

Sincerely,  
Cristi Demnowicz, Chair  
Represent Maryland  
Maryland Voter-LD7

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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](http://www.RepresentMaryland.org)