



BILL: HB0695

BILL TITLE: State Board of Elections - Campaign Finance Reporting Database - Study

BILL SPONSOR: Delegate Hornberger

COMMITTEE: Ways and Means

POSITION: FAVORABLE

HEARING DATE: February 9, 2021

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB0695

Cristi Demnowicz, Chair
Represent Maryland

Chair Kaiser, Vice-Chair Washington, and member of the committee,

There is a saying: sunlight is the best disinfectant. Although that might not actually be true when it comes to the Coronavirus, it's absolutely true when it comes to creating a functioning democracy in modern society.

We believe free access to information that influences and impacts our elections and legislative processes is imperative. This bill, HB0695, is a pretty radical idea, but it's a great idea. Let's figure out how to make donations to and expenditures from campaign committees publicly accessible in real time, to any voter who wants to learn more about what is going on. Lawmakers should not hide information from the voters they work for.

Please find HB0695 favorable and move it to the floor for a vote.

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