



**Maryland Association of Election Officials**  
Representing the Local Election Boards of the State of Maryland

January 19, 2021

Delegate Anne Kaiser, Chair  
Maryland House Ways and Means Committee  
Room 131, House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

**RE: HB 398 – Support**

Delegate Kaiser and Committee Members:

My name is Stuart Harvey. I am the Election Director in Frederick County and the co-chair of the Maryland Association of Election Officials (MAEO) Legislative Committee. MAEO represents the local boards of elections throughout the State of Maryland. I am here today representing myself and MAEO in support of HB 398 – Election Law – Time Off for Employee Voting.

HB 398 updates and clarifies the time off for an employee to vote. In particular, it takes in to account the early voting period, not just election day, as the current law does not. It also makes certain that an employer may not discriminate or retaliate financially or professionally against an employee who exercises their right to vote during working hours.

MAEO supports this update to existing law, and feels the legislation clarifies the time period that an employee may use for voting.

For these reasons, we would urge the committee to give HB 398 a favorable report.

Thank you for your time. If you have any questions, please call me at 301-600-1007, or via e-mail at [sharvey@frederickcountymd.gov](mailto:sharvey@frederickcountymd.gov).

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