



Get Money Out – Maryland

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STATEMENT TO THE HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 596 – EARLY VOTING CENTERS - HOURS OF OPERATION

March 23, 2021

Get Money Out (GMOM) is an all-volunteer organization that was established 8 years ago. We work toward the goal that all citizens should have equal access to the ballot and an equal say in governance. Despite having no outside source of funding, we have assisted over 9,000 Marylanders to engage with members of the General Assembly.

We think that government should remove barriers wherever possible for citizens who want to and are eligible to vote. We have observed during our petitioning efforts that voters arrive at early voting centers before the 10:00 am opening, and some of them leave because they have to go to work. Therefore, we think that opening the centers at 8:00 am for non-presidential elections removes one more barrier to people voting and avoids a situation where citizens arrive at a voting center and are disappointed. We urge a favorable report on **SB 596**.