

Written Testimony in FAVOR of HB493

Cheryl Gottlieb
302 E Joppa Rd #1409
Towson, MD 21286
cherylrose45@gmail.com

On Oct 28, 2020 I went to drop my emailed ballot off at the drop box closest to my apartment, Carver High School. I wanted to submit a photo of what I encountered to accompany my oral testimony. The box was perfectly positioned for someone to pull up in a car. However I have a visual processing disorder & Cerebral Palsy and cannot drive or navigate curbs without curb cuts. Even though the box was technically close to a bus stop, there wasn't a curb cut near the box, or anyway of accessing the slot without going into the street. Also, once I managed to get into the street, I was now lower down from the box, which was up on a sidewalk. Curbs are 4in in height. This additional height difference could make it impossible for non-amblutory wheelchair users to reach the slot. Voting sites are required to be accessible to disabled voters by Federal law. This should include drop boxes, taking into account that many disabled voters are non-drivers.

