



MARYLAND FEDERATION  
*of*  
Republican Women

The Honorable Anne Kaiser, Chairman, and Members, Ways and Means

RE: HB 57 - OPPOSE

Dear Delegates:

On behalf of the more than 1300 members of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women (MFRW), representing citizens from across Maryland, I am writing to ask you for Unfavorable Reports on HB 57.

HB 57 will create a great deal of additional work for our local Board of Elections. It also creates a system that unfairly imposed regulations that only affect a portion of our voting population. The rules and regulations determining polling locations should be the same for all voters. All voters' rights should be equally protected.

But the most egregious aspect of this bill is that it changes the voting date for certain individuals – namely those who could not follow the rules. It proposes that absentee ballots postmarked the day after the election will still be counted as valid. Individuals who vote by mail have many ways to return their ballots in a timely fashion – either in person at the Board of Elections or one of its drop boxes or by mailing it. And the ballot instructions clearly state that the ballot **MUST BE POSTMARKED** by the day of the Election. There is absolutely no reason to extend that date.

In conclusion, the members of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women strongly oppose HB 57 and ask for an Unfavorable Report.

Thank you,

*Diana D Waterman*

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