



# Montgomery County

## Office of Intergovernmental Relations

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**HB 767**

**DATE: February 12, 2021**

**SPONSOR: Montgomery County Delegation**

**ASSIGNED TO: Ways and Means**

**CONTACT PERSON: Kathleen Boucher (kathleen.boucher@montgomerycountymd.gov)**

**POSITION: Support with Amendments**

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### Montgomery County – Voting Methods MC 22-21

House Bill 767 authorizes Montgomery County to adopt a local law establishing a “ranked choice” or “approval” voting system for elections to County Executive, County Council, Circuit Court Judge, State’s Attorney, Circuit Court Clerk, Register of Wills, Orphan’s Court, Sheriff, and Board of Education. “Ranked choice voting” means a method of casting and tabulating votes in which voters rank candidates in order of preference and votes are tabulated in a manner that reflects voter preference. “Approval voting” means a method of casting and tabulating votes in which voters may choose any number of candidates and the candidate chosen most often is elected.

The Montgomery County Delegation approved this bill with amendments that require a local law enacted under the authority granted by this bill to provide for an educational campaign explaining how to vote under a ranked choice or approval voting system.

Montgomery County believes that ranked choice and approval voting are legitimate options to consider at the local level and respectfully requests that the Ways and Means Committee approve this bill with the amendments requested by the Montgomery County Delegation.