

DANIEL L. COX  
*Legislative District 4*  
Frederick and Carroll Counties

Judiciary Committee

*Subcommittees*

Civil Law and Procedure  
Family and Juvenile Law

Task Force to Study Crime  
Classification and Penalties



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 2, 2021

Favorable Testimony for HB 1145, Election Law – Absentee Ballots  
–Requests and Signature Verification

Dear Chair Kaiser, Vice-Chair Washington and Committee Members:

House Bill 1145 provides a trust but verify confidence in our absentee ballot processes.

The bill has two components. The first is to provide a process for voter identification at the time of requesting an absentee ballot by submitting a copy of a federally REAL ID compliant driver's license or identification card, a document that is acceptable as proof of residency for purposes of the Federal Real ID Act and an affidavit signed by the voter stating that the voter is a United States citizens.

The second, is a process to verify the absentee ballot and allow for review of the voters' signatures and that candidates, their committee or political party central committees have the opportunity inspect each ballot before the beginning of the canvass. We have one additional clarifying amendment that allows for the daily report of early and absentee voters who have voted to be fully, publically available to verify voter status.

This bill will increase citizen confidence in the Maryland election processes. I ask for a favorable report on HB 1145.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Cox'.

Daniel L. Cox