



**BILL: HB0355**

**BILL TITLE: Election Law - Registered Voter List Security and Electronic Signature Requirements for Petitions**

**BILL SPONSOR: Delegate Ruth**

**COMMITTEE: Ways and Means**

**POSITION: FAVORABLE**

**January 26, 2021**

**TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF HB0355**

Cristi Demnowicz, Chair  
Represent Maryland

Honorable Chair Kaiser, Vice-Chair Washington, and members of the committee-

In the year 2021, where you can order anything you need online 24 hours a day, you can have "face-to-face conversations with people on the other side of the world, and I can give formal verbal testimony from my dining room table, this bill makes sense. Add to that the fact that we are in the midst of a viral pandemic that is projected to last at least another year-our laws and method must be updated to reflect how society is now functioning.

Electronic signatures for petitions have already been made temporarily permissible, all this bill does is make them permanent. This is a small lift with big impact and will show voters that the legislature is serious about making it easier for them to participate in the democratic process.

Please find HB0355 favorable, and bring petitioning into the 21st century.

Sincerely,  
Cristi Demnowicz  
Chair  
Represent Maryland  
Maryland Voter-LD07

Represent Maryland is a grassroots anti-corruption group of citizen advocates that #FightForDemocracy in Maryland. Our democracy solutions include: Public Election Funds, Independent Redistricting, Special Elections, Ranked Choice Voting, Increased Ethics and Transparency, and Increased Voter Participation.

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Authorized by Represent Maryland PAC, T Miller, Treasurer  
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