



# Maryland Association of Election Officials

## Representing the Local Election Boards of the State of Maryland

February 5, 2021

Delegate Anne Kaiser, Chair  
Maryland House Ways and Means Committee  
Room 131, House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

### **RE: HB656 – Information**

Delegate Kaiser and Committee Members:

My name is Katherine Berry. I am the Election Director in Carroll County and the co-chair of the Maryland Association of Election Officials (MAEO) Legislative Committee. MAEO represents the local boards of elections throughout the State of Maryland. I am writing today representing myself and MAEO with information regarding HB656 – Election Law – Accessibility by Public Transportation.

This bill would require that an early voting center be no further than 500 feet from a public transportation route when possible. In some jurisdictions, it is particularly difficult to locate viable early voting centers near a fixed transportation route, so MAEO is in favor of amending the bill to mandate the public transportation company to make a stop at all early voting centers that are on a regular route during the days of voting.

Thank you for your time. If you have any questions, please contact me at (410)386-2958 or [Katherine.berry@maryland.gov](mailto:Katherine.berry@maryland.gov).

[www.maeo.net](http://www.maeo.net)