

THE BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

203 South Fourth Street - Courthouse - Room 207 Oakland, Maryland 21550

www.garrettcountry.org countycommissioners@garrettcountry.org

301-334-8970

301-895-3188

FAX 301-334-5000

Board of Commissioners

Paul C. Edwards
James C. Hinebaugh, Jr.
S. Larry Tichnell

County Administrator

Kevin G. Null

County Attorney

Gorman E. Getty III

February 3, 2021

The Honorable Anne Kaiser
Chairwoman, House Ways and Means Committee
Room 113 House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

RE: OPPOSE-HB 655 –LOCAL GOVERNMENT – COUNTY COMMISSIONER ELECTIONS – DISTRICT VOTING

Dear Chairwoman Kaiser:

The Board of County Commissioners of Garrett County **OPPOSE** HB 655– Local Government – County Commissioner Elections – District Voting. This legislative proposal would require a county commissioner to be represent a specific district and to be elected exclusively by voters in that district.

Citizens have a fundamental right to determine how their representatives should be elected and any attempt to

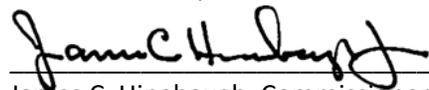
While County Commissioners in Garrett County represent a district, they are elected at large by a county-wide vote. We strongly believe that Commissioners should be elected by a county-wide vote to give all eligible voters an opportunity to select those representing and serving the county.

Respectfully, we question the legality and wisdom of Annapolis changing the process for electing Garrett County Commissioners.

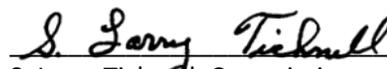
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GARRETT COUNTY, MARYLAND



Paul C. Edwards, Chairman



James C. Hinebaugh, Commissioner



S. Larry Tichnell, Commissioner