

## **Testimony of Hillary Hall in Support of HB759 In Maryland:**

Thank you Del. Kaiser, Del. Washington, and committee members for the opportunity to to submit testimony in support of HB759. The National Vote at Home Institute is pleased to join local leaders in support of this measure and are grateful for your time and attention.

My name is Hillary Hall and I am currently the Senior Advisor to State and Local Election Officials at the National Vote at Home Institute (NVAHI). Prior to this, I worked for 12 years at the Clerk and Recorder for Boulder County in Colorado. It was during this time that I developed a deep expertise in voting systems, was one of the first clerks in the country to implement Risk Limiting Audits as an election security measure and helped write the law that required Colorado to conduct RLAs statewide.

The National Vote at Home Institute is a nonpartisan nonprofit dedicated to making sure every American can vote in secure, accessible, and equitable elections by expanding vote-at-home systems in all 50 states. NVAHI works with election officials in optimizing their administration processes and governing laws for both mail ballot and in-person voting methods. NVAHI works to remove legislative and administrative barriers and educate the public on the benefits of voting at home while still preserving the ability to vote in person for those who may want or need it.

Currently in Maryland, election officials conduct standard audits of the results of elections. Maryland can reach the highest standard of post-election security by changing the required type of audits to risk limiting audits. Risk-limiting audits are conducted using advanced statistical methods to gain the highest degree of accuracy, and are considered the “gold standard” in the election security community. Risk limiting audits will ensure Maryland’s elections are secure and accurate. Voters can be assured that the winners really did win the election.

With the spread of election misinformation, the need to reassure voters of the integrity of their vote is greater than ever. Improving the audits of election results is not only good for elections, but also good for voter confidence.

We enthusiastically support HB759 to help Maryland perform the most secure audits possible, and would be happy to provide technical guidance.

# VOTE HOME

February 2021

If you have further interest in Risk Limiting Audits here are three Democracy Fund guides, written by Jennifer Morrell, a national expert on designing and implementing Risk Limiting Audits.

[https://democracyfund.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2019\\_DF\\_KnowingItsRight\\_Part1.pdf](https://democracyfund.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2019_DF_KnowingItsRight_Part1.pdf)

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