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**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE  
IN SUPPORT OF  
HB 0493 - Election Law - Voting Locations - Accessibility by Public  
Transportation and Voters with Disabilities**

February 2, 2021

Get Money Out (GMOM) is an all-volunteer organization established eight years ago. We want all citizens to have equal access to the ballot and an equal say in governance. Through our grassroots actions, we have signed up over 9,000 supporters.

Under **HB 0493**, ballot drop boxes are required to be no more than 500 feet from public transportation stops to provide maximum access to people with disabilities. GMOM is dedicated to ensuring every citizen has an equal opportunity to participate in this country's democracy. It seems then that HB 0493 is an easy and affordable method to help protect the rights of people who have difficulties with mobility.

We ask the reader to take a moment to think back to a time when moving was difficult for them. Perhaps you threw out your back and had to ask your partner to get you a drink of water. The small distance from your location to the kitchen seemed like a journey you could not overcome at that moment. It is with that empathy that we would ask you to view citizens who struggle with a disability.

The state of Maryland already has ballot boxes for individuals and we already have fixed public transportation spots; thus, there is little extra cost to ensuring the ballots are near one of these stops. This small action could ease the burden of voting for many individuals in our communities. Therefore, we urge a favorable vote from the committee on **HB 0493**.