



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 23, 2021

Testimony in Support of SB 532 – Election Law – Polling Places – Proof of Identity

Chairman Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan, and members of the Education, Health, and Environment Committee,

Senate Bill 532 is common sense legislation that would require voter ID, but expands the types of identification that can be used.

Opposition to voter ID is largely based on the fact that some individuals do not possess a government-issued ID. Senate bill 532 would expand the definition of voter ID to include a utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or any other government document; a voter notification card; or the specimen ballot mailed to the voter by a local board,

There are now 35 states that request or require ID to voteⁱ. In general, it is a good idea to verify a voter's identity in order to ensure a one-person-per-person system. There have been many cases in which people registered in multiple states vote multiple times, cases in which deceased voter cast a ballot, or is a non-citizen. Senate Bill 838 will give voters the confidence that all who vote do so legally.

I respectfully request a favorable on Senate Bill 532.

ⁱ National Conference of State Legislatures. *Voter ID Laws*. 2022. [Voter ID Laws \(ncsl.org\)](https://www.ncsl.org/voter-id-laws)