

**BRIAN E. FROSH**  
*Attorney General*



**ELIZABETH F. HARRIS**  
*Chief Deputy Attorney General*

**CAROLYN QUATTROCKI**  
*Deputy Attorney General*

**STATE OF MARYLAND**  
**OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

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410-576-6584

February 23, 2022

**TO:** The Honorable Paul G. Pinsky  
Chair, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

**FROM:** Hannibal G. Williams II Kemerer  
Chief Counsel, Legislative Affairs, Office of the Attorney General

**RE:** SB 532 – Election Law – Polling Places – Proof of Identity – **Oppose**

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Chair Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan, and distinguished members of the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee, we write to urge your unfavorable report on Senate Bill 532. This bill would impose identification (“ID”) requirements for voters at polling places. In order to vote, voters would be required to produce a government-issued photo ID; a recent utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, or any other government document showing the voter’s current address; a voter notification card; or the specimen ballot sent in advance of the election.

This bill presents a solution in search of a problem. There is no evidence that in-person voter fraud via impersonating someone else takes place at any level that would justify the inevitable disenfranchisement that the new requirements of this bill would result in. While this is superior to a strict voter ID bill, it still requires voters to come to polling places with independent verification of identity. Without question some voters will forget or will be unaware of this requirement. They may then decline to vote provisionally, or may fail to take the steps needed (such as producing the missing ID at the board of elections immediately after the election) to have their provisional ballot counted.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the Office of Attorney General urges an unfavorable vote on Senate Bill 532.

cc: Committee Members