



**Maryland Developmental  
Disabilities Council**

CREATING CHANGE • IMPROVING LIVES

**Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee**

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

**February 23, 2022**

**Position: Oppose**

The Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council (DD Council) is an independent, public policy organization that creates changes to make it possible for people with developmental disabilities to live the lives they want with the support they need. The DD Council is led by people with developmental disabilities and their families. **From that perspective, the DD Council opposes SB 532 due to the disproportionate and negative impact it would have on voters with developmental disabilities.**

**WHAT** does this legislation do:

- SB 532 would require that an individual seeking to vote must present government-issued identification and a second form of government documentation that demonstrates the voter's name and address.

**WHY** is this a problem?

- It makes voting more difficult and cumbersome.
- It disproportionately affects voters with disabilities because they are nearly twice as likely to not have government-issued photo identification.
- The required provision of multiple government documents at the polling place is unnecessarily burdensome on voters with developmental disabilities.

SB 532 would be a step in the wrong direction for ensuring that voters with developmental disabilities have access to, and can effectively participate in, the electoral process. **For that reason, the DD Council opposes SB 532.**

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