

# REPRESENT MARYLAND

#FIGHT FOR DEMOCRACY .ORG

**BILL: HB1089**

**BILL TITLE: Election Law - Registered Voter List Security and Electronic Signature Requirements for Petitions**

**BILL SPONSOR: Delegate Ruth**

**COMMITTEE: Ways and Means**

**POSITION: FAVORABLE**

**February 25, 2022**

## TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF HB1089

Honorable Chair Atterbeary, Vice-Chair Washington, and members of the committee-

In the year 2022, where you can order anything you need online 24 hours a day, you can have “face-to-face conversations with people on the other side of the world, and I can give formal verbal testimony from my dining room table, this bill makes sense. Add to that the fact that we are still in the midst of a viral pandemic that is projected to continue-our laws and method must be updated to reflect how society is now functioning.

Electronic signatures for petitions had previously been made temporarily permissible; all this bill does is reintroduce and make them permanent. This is a small lift with big impact and will show voters that the legislature is serious about making it easier for them to participate in the democratic process.

Please find HB1089 favorable, and bring petitioning into the 21st century.

Sincerely,  
Ben Tabatabai  
Member  
Represent Maryland  
Maryland Voter-LD07

Represent Maryland is a grassroots anti-corruption group of citizen advocates that #FightForDemocracy in Maryland. Our democracy solutions include: Public Election Funds, Independent Redistricting, Special Elections, Ranked Choice Voting, Increased Ethics and Transparency, and Increased Voter Participation.

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