



BILL: HB0525

**BILL TITLE: Montgomery County Council and Prince George's County Council -
Candidate Residency Requirements**

BILL SPONSOR: Delegate Barnes

COMMITTEE: Ways and Means

POSITION: FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS

HEARING DATE: 2/8/22

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF HB0525 WITH AMENDMENTS

Represent Maryland is a grassroots, all volunteer group of voters who believe in democracy and oppose corruption. We believe that for good and democratic government, elected officials should be a part of the communities they represent. For that reason, we believe this legislation is a significant step in the right direction as it establishes clear residency requirements for candidates, which will increase accountability and transparency. However, we also believe this legislation should be even stronger and require candidates to reside in the district for at least a year, so they can gain some understanding of the community they are seeking to represent. Thus, we urge a favorable report with the above mentioned amendment for SB0525.

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. Learn more about our work at www.RepresentMaryland.org
Authorized by Represent Maryland PAC, T Miller, Treasurer