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February 8, 2022

To: The Honorable Vanessa E. Atterbeary
Chair, Ways and Means Committee

From: The Office of the Attorney General

Re: HB 0327 – Elections – Election Judges – Minimum Compensation – **Support**

The Office of Attorney General (the “OAG”) urges this Committee to favorably report HB 0327.

House Bill 0327 would increase the minimum compensation for election judges to \$200 per day of service, while preserving the higher levels of compensation for election judges that currently exist in certain counties of the State. This bill recognizes the important work performed by election judges at the thousands of early voting centers and election-day polling places during elections across the State, and the long hours they serve performing that work. Polls are open on early voting and election days from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm, but the work of election judges starts before and ends after those times, respectively.

Election judges stand at the front lines of democracy; their work makes it possible. For the foregoing reasons, the Office of the Attorney General urges a favorable report on House Bill 0327.

cc: Members of the Ways and Means Committee