



**TESTIMONY FOR HB0017
CAMPAIGN FINANCE – RECURRING CONTRIBUTIONS AND DONATIONS -
REQUIREMENTS**

Bill Sponsor: Delegate Palakovich-Carr
Committee: Ways and Means
Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition
Person Submitting: Cecilia Plante, co-chair
Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB0017 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

Many of our members have contributed to the campaigns of local, state and federal officials. There have been times where the recurring donation box was pre-checked, and the person donating did not realize that instead of contributing \$25, they were actually agreeing to contribute \$25 per month.

Our members believe that you should not have to legislate this level of activity, but in the interest of protecting citizens from unfair and predatory practices, we believe that this is necessary. It also ensures the candidates that the amount of contributions that they receive is accurate and prevents them from being associated with this type of gift.

We support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.