

BILL NUMBER: HB0212

BILL TITLE: Election Law - Signature Verification of Absentee Ballots and Absentee Ballot Applications and

Ballot Canvassing

BILL SPONSOR: Delegate Neil Parrott

POSITION: UNFAVORABLE

February 1, 2022

Honorable Chairwoman Vanessa Atterbeary, Vice-Chairman Alonzo Washington, and Ways and Means Committee Members:

Represent Maryland does not support this unnecessary signature verification process for absentee ballots, absentee ballot applications, and ballot canvassing. The current absentee ballot verification process went smoothly in 2020, despite a global pandemic. There were no reports of widespread fraud or irregularities in Maryland.

We believe in making voting easier for all legal voters, not harder. The current system works and should remain as it is, so we ask the committee to find this bill unfavorable.

Sincerely,

Justin Gallardo, Volunteer

Represent Maryland

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 Miler, Treasurer