



Maryland Municipal League

The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

March 15, 2022

Committee: Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment

Bill: SB 878 - Voting Rights Act of 2023 - Counties and Municipalities

Position: Oppose

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League opposes Senate Bill 878, which establishes many new requirements for voting qualifications which are both unduly burdensome and redundant.

The State has largely authorized municipal governments to operate their elections in a manner that allows for changes to be made to fit the wants and needs of each individual community. As a result, municipalities have different eligibility requirements, election dates, and processes. Establishing the new requirements proposed in this bill would be financially and logistically challenging, especially to smaller towns, with little value added; the federal Voting Rights Act already ensures that residents cannot be excluded from voting based on race.

Our towns and cities already work hard to make sure all residents can vote safely and effectively, at great cost to their own budgets. For these reasons the League respectfully requests that this committee provide SB 878 with an unfavorable report.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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