



Ella Ennis, Legislative Chairman
Maryland Federation of Republican Women
PO Box 6040, Annapolis MD 21401
Email: eee437@comcast.net

The Honorable Brian Feldman, Chairman
and Members of the Committee on
Education, Energy and Environment
Senate of Maryland
Annapolis, Maryland

RE: **SB 750** Election Law-- Voting - Proof of Identity – **FAVORABLE**

Dear Chairman Feldman and Members,

The Maryland Federation of Republican Women strongly support SB 750 to require proof of identification for in-person voting in all elections.

The right to vote is one of Americans' most precious rights. Ensuring that the person who appears at the polling place is, in fact, the voter whose name is on the registration record is a sacred duty. The most reliable method of ensuring that the person voting is the registered voter in the poll book is to show a valid government-issued photo identification. Having the election official see the photo ID not only aids in preventing fraudulent voting, it also avoids mistakes that can take place when a person states their name. It reduces the chance that the wrong voter could be checked off on the poll book when the election official can both see the ID and hear the voter state their name and address.

SB 750 provides an additional protection in having the voter sign their name in the presence of the election judge and having the judge compare that signature with the signature on the photo ID. It also prohibits a person from knowingly voting using a false identification. Every citizen should be able to secure a valid government-issued photo identification. The Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration issues photo identification cards for individuals who do not have a driver's license.

It is important that only citizens register and vote in our elections. When non-citizens vote, it negates the vote of a citizen. This is unacceptable. All citizens should be able to register to vote and to have their vote counted. Polls repeatedly show that an overwhelming majority of Americans support Voter ID.

Please give a **FAVORABLE** report to **SB 750**.

Sincerely,
Ella Ennis
Legislative Chairman
Maryland Federation of Republican Women