

Good Afternoon Chair Atterbeary, Vice-Chair Wilkins, and distinguished members of this committee,

My name is Kaitlin Fraer, I am a lifetime resident of St. Mary's County and am requesting a favorable report on HB0447. You'll likely be hearing quite a bit from citizens of St. Mary's County on both sides of this bill. Still, I hope that the committee will be able to see through the arguments against HB0447 as what they are, a last-ditch effort to stay in power and to keep the citizens from District 4 from having their own voice at the table. District 4 is one of the most competitive seats in St. Mary's County by the numbers; however, rarely does anyone even file to run for that district as their voice is drowned out by the more significant number of Republican votes from the northern end of the county. For too long has the largely Democratic-leaning fourth district been silenced by the second and third district's Republican majority. We just want a seat at the table, and this bill can give us that.

Thank you

Kaitlin Fraer

Concerned Citizen