



**Barbara Noveau, Founder, DoTheMostGood**

**Committee:** Ways and Means

**Testimony on:** HB1200- Elections – Election Judges – Minimum Compensation

**Position:** Favorable

**Hearing Date:** February 28, 2023

**Bill Contact:** Delegate Dana Jones

DoTheMostGood (DTMG) is a progressive grassroots organization with members across Montgomery County as well as several neighboring counties. DTMG supports legislation and activities that protect the fundamental rights of all Maryland residents, and which promote equity across all our diverse communities.

DTMG enthusiastically supports HB1200- Elections – Election Judges – Minimum Compensation. This bill would establish the minimum compensation for Election Judges during early voting and election day as well as a separate minimum compensation for training days. Overall, a minimum compensation is proposed at \$250 per day during voting, with certain exceptions. Recruiting of election judges—which has become problematic for several reasons—will be improved by compensation commensurate to the position.

In sum, DTMG applauds this bill for establishing minimum compensation for election judges at a level that will encourage more people to apply for these positions. Fully staffed polling places with well-trained election judges is at the foundation of conducting free and open elections that are equally available to all eligible voters.

DTMG strongly supports HB1200 and urges a **FAVORABLE** report on the bill.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barbara Noveau", is positioned below the text "Respectfully submitted,".

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