

140 Main Street Annapolis, MD 21401 800 448 6782 410 263 6600

marylandeducators.org

## Testimony in OPPOSITION to House Bill 1092 Election Law - Early Voting - Number of Days

## **House Ways & Means Committee** March 7, 2023

## Samantha Zwerling **Government Relations**

The Maryland State Education Association stands in strong opposition to House Bill 1092, which would reduce the number of days an early voting center would be required to be open from eight days to four days before an election.

MSEA represents 75,000 educators and school employees who work in Maryland's public schools, teaching and preparing our almost 900,000 students so they can pursue their dreams. MSEA also represents 39 local affiliates in every county across the state of Maryland, and our parent affiliate is the 3 million-member National Education Association (NEA).

MSEA supports efforts to expand voting rights and voting access to more Marylanders and House Bill 1092 does the opposite. As recently reaffirmed at MSEA Representative Assembly, we support "legislation that enhances citizen participation in the political and voting process." Early voting has been proven to allow more working people to be able to vote and participate in the process. The General Assembly should be doing all it can to expand access to voting rather than reduce opportunities.

MSEA urges an Unfavorable Report on House Bill 1092.



