

HB 80 - Favorable
Ways and Means Committee

Honorable Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Ways and Means Committee;

Please give House Bill 80 a **FAVORABLE** report. House Bill 80 would prohibit individuals from being a candidate for or in an elected position and simultaneously being a candidate for or holding a Party office.

I live in Anne Arundel County where Corine Frank ran for and won my district's position on the county Board of Education while also being the Executive Director of the Maryland Republican Party. The county Board of Education race is supposed to be nonpartisan, but this position enabled Corine Frank to utilize the power of the Maryland Republican Party while electioneering at the polls. The stain of partisanship corrupted the entire election.

I'm likewise concerned that a Party's primaries would be contaminated if a candidate held a Party office. All Primary candidates should have an equal opportunity to be elected by the majority of their Party.

I urge you to give HB 80 a Favorable report in order to create a more fair and equitable system.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Debi Jasen
Pasadena, MD 21122