

HB0164\_RichardKaplowitz\_UNF

1/25/2024

Richard Keith Kaplowitz  
Frederick, MD 21703

**TESTIMONY ON HB#/0164 - POSITION: UNFAVORABLE**

**Election Law - Voter Registration List - Absentee Voters (Absentee Ballot Transparency Act of 2024)**

**TO:** Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and members of the Ways and Means Committee

**FROM:** Richard Keith Kaplowitz

**My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3. I am submitting this testimony against HB#/0164, Election Law - Voter Registration List - Absentee Voters (Absentee Ballot Transparency Act of 2024)**

I am very uneasy about this legislation and the possibility that the information that would be provided could be used for voter intimidation in a general election. The bill contains no safeguards to protect the privacy of a voter and could be misused after a primary to target voters to promote misinformation about an upcoming election. It could facilitate robocalls or emails that seek to leverage the information a candidate would gain for negative purposes.

The Maryland State Board of Elections documents all of the steps they take to insure we have safe and valid elections, and this bill would contravene some of the secure measures that are primary methodology in voter protections.

[https://www.elections.maryland.gov/about/election\\_security.html](https://www.elections.maryland.gov/about/election_security.html)

This bill is unnecessary and only serves to respond to political falsehoods around the conduct of elections that do not occur in any number that would affect a Maryland election. **I respectfully urge this committee to return an unfavorable report on HB#/0164.**