



Maryland Municipal League
The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

March 12, 2025

Committee: House Environment and Transportation Committee

Bill: HB 1525 – Municipalities - Annexation - Limitations

Position: Oppose

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League opposes House Bill 1525, which would prohibit a municipality from annexing land that is located in a different legislative district.

Municipalities often seek to annex adjacent areas to promote orderly growth, enhance service delivery, and address community needs. The proposed restriction based on legislative district boundaries, which are primarily designed for electoral purposes, does not align with the practical considerations of municipal planning and development.

Introducing legislative district boundaries as a limiting factor adds an arbitrary constraint that will undermine existing annexation plans and service delivery across the state. Furthermore, if HB 1525 were enacted, municipal annexation plans would face potential upheaval each time the state undergoes redistricting.

If a community wants to be annexed into a municipality to have water and sewer extended to their properties, they shouldn't have to wait 10 years and hope the next redistricting commission moves the line.

For these reasons the League respectfully requests that this committee provide an unfavorable report on House Bill 1525. For more information, please contact Justin Fiore, Deputy Director of Advocacy and Public Affairs, at justinf@mdmunicipal.org. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

The Maryland Municipal League uses its collective voice to advocate, empower and protect the interests of our 160 local governments members and elevates local leadership, delivers impactful solutions for our communities, and builds an inclusive culture for the 2 million Marylanders we serve.