

CHRISTOPHER ERIC BOUCHAT
Legislative District 5
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Judiciary Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 10, 2024

The Honorable Chair Healey, Vice Chair Holmes, and members of the Rules and Executive Nominations Committee:

House Bill 96- Favorable

This Senate Continuity Bill is about adopting the political science genius of our Founding Fathers who gathered at Independence Hall in 1787 to conceive the greatest political science document in world history.

It is understood that civic rule is not stagnant in perpetuity and the passion of the populous can sweep any partisan rule from power with an election. It was achieved in Maryland when Republicans won control of the Senate in 1918 to the astounding surprise of the Democrats in control. It can and will happen again.

The purpose of this bill is the same as our Founders in 1787. The senate must be the check value on populous passion to prevent a sudden removal of senate institutional knowledge, which actual hurts the function of the legislative institution. By expanding the membership from 47 to 48 the membership can evenly split its elections in half, 24 every two years for 4-year terms. Thereby, achieving the objective established in the U.S. Constitution and reinforced in the writings of Hamilton and Madison in the Federalist Papers.

Adding one more senator and 3 more delegates would be beneficial to the representation and expansion of the state's growing population since the 47 and 141 numerical seats were set. This amendment is actually beneficial to the majority part in control to protect them from being swept from senate control all at once.

This bill is based on the Constitution, the genius of our founders, the history of the Maryland legislature and most of all the known uncontrollable passion of human nature regarding direct populous election. Our fore father understood it and incorporated it into our nations ruling document and we should as well.

Who are we to say, they are wrong? Let us agree for the sake of democracy.

I urge the committee to give a favorable report on House Bill 96.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. Bouchat'.

Delegate Christopher Eric Bouchat