



The Honorable Will Smith
Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chairman Smith and Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee:

The Center for Election Science, a leader in the implementation of approval voting, would like to express its support for **Senate Bill 311: Government Officials' Family Protection Act of 2025**.

The Center for Election Science was proud to support the Moore Administration's efforts during the 2024 Legislative Session in passing Senate Bill 480, a measure that protects the democratic process while simultaneously protecting elections officials. This measure takes that effort a step forward in that it also protects the immediate families of public officials. We support this inclusion.

Founded in 2011, the Center for Election Science (CES) is a national, nonpartisan nonprofit focused on voting reform. CES seeks to empower people with voting methods that strengthen democracy. By implementing approval voting, which allows voters to pick all of the candidates they like on their ballot, we believe citizens will be able to more clearly and effectively express their support for candidates who truly represent their communities.

As a national nonprofit, we have worked with hundreds of elections officials throughout the country. Their difficult work to ensure that elections are fair for all qualified voters is often thankless. This measure ensures that elections officials are free from harassment and threats of violence.

We look forward to continuing our work in Maryland with elections officials and the Maryland Association of Elections Officials, we urge a favorable report of this bill.

For more information on the Center for Election Science's work on approval voting, please visit: electionscience.org.

Sincerely,

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