

Good afternoon Chairman Clippinger, ViceChair Bartlett and members of the Committee,

My name is Joe Griffin, I am the Register of Wills for Montgomery County, and I respectfully request a favorable vote on HB 918.

The Register's salary is set in a 2 step process,

1. MD code E&T 2-205 states the Maximum salary a Register may be compensated
2. Then the Board of Public Works determines the salary for each individual Register within the maximum amount.

We have come before this committee every four years to request a COLA for the upcoming term of office. Historically we have asked that the maximum set in the code receive the same COLA as all state employee, including those in our offices, have received over the past 4 years

HB 918 continues this practice by keeping the Registers permanently at the same grade and step On Maryland's Standard and Bargaining Salary Scale.

At the beginning of each 4 year term, the new maximum will be set at whatever a grade 26 step 20 is at that time. This is strictly a COLA.

It is then up to the Board of Public works to set the actual salary for each of the 24 Registers.

I thank you for your time and respectfully request your support.