

# MEMO

**FROM:** Beatrice Tignor, President, Prince George's County Board of Elections  
1100 Mercantile Lane, Suite 115A, Largo, MD 20774  
**TO:** Chair Vanessa Atterbeary, and Members of the Maryland House Ways and Means  
Committee  
**DATE:** February 20, 2025

**RE:** Support for House Bill 1042 – Enhancing Transparency and Integrity in Mail In Ballot  
Voting

Dear Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and Esteemed Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 1042, an essential measure aimed at reinforcing transparency and integrity in Maryland's mail in voting process. As a former Maryland State Senator and the current President of the Prince George's County Board of Elections, where I have proudly served for over 12 years, I have seen firsthand the critical role that secure and transparent election processes play in maintaining public confidence in our democracy.

House Bill 1042 introduces two key provisions that will further strengthen the integrity of mail in ballot voting:

Enhanced Transparency – The bill ensures that voters are fully informed about the mail in ballot collection and delivery process by requiring the inclusion of relevant information on each specimen ballot. This step empowers voters with knowledge and fosters greater trust in the system.

Agent Restrictions – By prohibiting individuals affiliated with a candidate, including campaign staff and volunteers, from serving as authorized agents for mail in ballot collection, this legislation eliminates potential conflicts of interest and helps safeguard against undue influence in the voting process.

At a time when election integrity is more important than ever, House Bill 1042 provides common-sense solutions that will strengthen Maryland's electoral system without creating unnecessary barriers to voting. These provisions will ensure that every voter can participate in the democratic process with confidence, knowing that their ballot is handled with fairness, impartiality, and the highest ethical standards.

I respectfully urge this committee to issue a favorable report on House Bill 1042. Thank you for your time and commitment to upholding the integrity of our elections.

Thank you  
Beatrice Tignor, President, Prince George's County Board of Elections