

## HB0586 – Favorable

Honorable Delegates

I support:

- requiring a local board of elections to pay an election judge compensation for completing a certain course of instruction only after the election judge actually serves an election day or early voting day; and
- authorizing a public school student in the State to both earn hours toward the service-learning graduation requirement and receive election judge compensation for service as an election judge.

As someone who has been an election judge several times, being paid for the time to take the training course is a good marketing tool to recruit volunteers. Since we did not receive the payment until after the election was over, I had assumed that the training payment was conditional on having actually served as a judge during the election.

I would like to think that it is rare that someone takes the training class, yet fails to show on Election Day. Since a fiscal review was not available when I prepared this testimony, there is no analysis as to the number of no-shows who received training reimbursement without serving.

I whole-heartedly support any student serving as a judge to receive both financial and service learning credits as compensation for their service. When I served as a judge, many of us were retired or nearing retirement age and the long day, especially when serving consecutive days as an early voting judge, was draining. This bill would encourage more youthful judges to assist us and it would also help us get through the day[s] by feeding off their energy and enthusiasm.

Please enter a Favorable report for HB0586.

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February 11, 2025