

HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

February 24, 2025

**HB 1113 – Election Law – Enhanced Automatic Voter Registration
System**

Position: SUPPORT

Disability Rights Maryland (DRM) is the Protection & Advocacy agency in Maryland, federally mandated to advance the civil rights of people with disabilities.

DRM supports HB 1113, which requires the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) to automatically register eligible individuals to vote when they apply for or renew a driver's license, learner's permit, or identification card—unless they opt out. This bill will also create notice requirements for an individual to receive confirmation of their successful registration.

Individuals with disabilities often face barriers that hinder their full participation in the voting process. By enhancing support for voter registration, this bill helps ensure that individuals with disabilities can exercise their fundamental right to vote. By automatically registering eligible individuals who complete applicable transactions at the MVA—unless they choose to opt out—the bill promotes broader access to the electoral process for people with disabilities. HB 1113 promotes greater civic engagement for people with disabilities by making voter registration more straightforward and less burdensome.

For these reasons, we request a favorable report on HB 1113. Please do not hesitate to contact me at BradenS@DisabilityRightsMD.org or by phone at 443-692-2485.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorney

Disability Rights Maryland