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HB 1094 DATE: February 24, 2025

SPONSOR: Montgomery County Delegation

ASSIGNED TO: Ways and Means

CONTACT PERSON: Kathleen Boucher (Kathleen.boucher@montgomerycountymd.gov)

POSITION: Support

Montgomery County – Voting Methods MC 9-25

House Bill 1094 authorizes Montgomery County to adopt a local law establishing a "ranked choice" or "approval rating" voting system for elections to County Executive, County Council, Circuit Court Judge, State's Attorney, Register of Wills, Sheriff, and Board of Education. "Ranked choice voting" means a method of casting and tabulating votes in which voters rank candidates in order of preference and votes are tabulated in a manner that reflects voter preference. "Approval voting" means a method of casting and tabulating votes in which voters may choose any number of candidates and the candidate chosen most often is elected.

Montgomery County believes that this enabling bill appropriately authorizes the County to consider whether adoption of ranked choice voting or approval voting for the offices referenced in the bill would be in the best interests of County residents, and respectfully requests that the Ways and Means Committee give this bill a favorable report.