



Maryland Retired School Personnel Association

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House Bill 091
In Support Of
Elections – In-Person Voting – Proof of Identity
House Ways and Means Committee
Hearing: January 28, 2025– 1:00 p.m.

Dear Honorable Delegate Vanessa Atterbeary, Chair, and Honorable Delegate Jheanelle Wilkins, Vice Chair, and other distinguished Ways and Means Committee members,

The Maryland Retired School Personnel Association (MRSPA) opposes HB 91 Elections – In-Person Voting – Proof of Identity.

We strongly oppose this legislation because we believe it will be a detriment to voters. When a citizen registers to vote s/he is required to provide a government-issued photo identification or a valid nongovernment-issued photo identification, and a current bill, statement, or check that states the voter's name and address proof of identity. The voter's identifying information is then put into the state database of registered voters.

Requiring the voter to re-present his/her identification on election day is redundant. It also places a hardship on those who, for whatever reason, are unable to access their identification on election day. When a voter presents him/herself to the election judge they are required to give their name, address, and birthday. If that person is a registered voter, this information will be verified in the voter registration database, and the voter will then be allowed to vote.

There have been only three proven instances of voter fraud in the state of Maryland according to the Heritage Foundation, a self-described "research and educational institution whose mission is to build and promote conservative public policies." Therefore, there is no need to require additional proof of identity.

On behalf of the 12,000 members of the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association, we urge opposition to HB 91.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth H. Weller
President

Virginia G. Crespo
Legislative Aide