



**TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE**

**HB 1097 Workgroup on Mail-In Ballot Accessibility**

**POSITION – Support**

**BY: Linda T. Kohn, President**

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The League of Women Voters of Maryland believes that voting should be accessible and implemented in a way that is not only feasible but also as inclusive to as many individuals as possible.

Within the last few years, the idea of different types of voting mechanisms has become more and more popular. This has ranged from serious conversations on internet voting and curbside voting to less practical discussions around blockchain voting.

While Maryland is leading the country in the different methods and ease with which people can vote, LWVMD is committed to making the process even more inclusive and seamless for those who do not feel it is working for them. In forming a workgroup to study current mail-in ballot practices as well as emerging methods that could be utilized, Maryland would remain a leader to all voters.

LWVMD is excited about the prospect of participating in this workgroup and reaching more voters who may have never voted before, felt they were unable to vote or decided not to vote because of a disability or condition.

For the above reasons, LWVMD urges a favorable report on HB 1097.