

**Ways and Means Committee**  
**House Bill 1043**  
**FAVORABLE**

Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Ways and Means Committee;

Please give House Bill 1043, regarding the voter suppression of protected classes, a Favorable report.

With the evisceration of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, Maryland needs to ensure that protected classes aren't faced with additional obstacles to voting. Racism continues to be a problem in our society, and that won't be addressed in office if those who are affected aren't able to access the ballot. Under the white supremacist Trump administration, we can only expect for voting to become even more difficult for melaninated people. Please pass House Bill 1043 out of committee. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Debi Jasen  
Pasadena, MD