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February 11, 2025

TO: The Honorable Vanessa Atterbeary
Chair, Ways and Means Committee

FROM: Adam Spangler
Legislative Aide, Legislative Affairs, Office of the Attorney General

RE: House Bill 115 – Election Law - Polling Places - Establishing Voter Identity
(Voter Privacy Act of 2025) - **Unfavorable**

The Office of the Attorney General recommends an unfavorable report on **House Bill 115**. This bill amends § 10-310 of the Election Law Article. **House Bill 115** could introduce complexities into the voter check-in process used by the State Board of Elections because an election judge cannot verify a voter's identity based solely on their name and picture.

Currently, election judges compare the information a voter provides against the voter's entry in the MDVoters database, specifically matching the voter's name and birth date. This bill allows voters to present any form of ID that includes their picture, provided it is issued by a government entity. However, if that ID does not include a birth date, the election judge will only compare the picture and name from the ID to the name in the MDVoters database. This method is not very secure or accurate for confirming that the voter is the same person listed in the voter registration database.

For the foregoing reasons the Office of the Attorney General requests an unfavorable report on **House Bill 115**.

CC: The Honorable Robert B. Long