

Maryland Retired School Personnel Association

8379 Piney Orchard Parkway, Suite A ● Odenton, Maryland 21113 Phone: 410.551.1517 ● Email: <u>mrspa@mrspa.org</u> Website: <u>www.mrspa.org</u>

House Bill 67 In Opposition Of Election Law – Absentee Ballots – Signature Requirements and Verification Ways and Means Committee Hearing: January 28, 2025

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

The Maryland Retired School Personnel Association Legislative Committee has statewide representation and provides leadership on legislative issues which affect our members and Maryland citizens. We oppose HB 67 Election Law – Absentee Ballots – Signature Requirement and Verification.

This bill is a solution in search of a problem. State and local Boards of Election already have proper procedures in place to deal with an unsigned mail-in ballot. Placing more burden on the elections officials beyond what they are already doing is unnecessary and gives the appearance that the legislature does not trust the elections officials to properly do their jobs.

Maryland has held very successful elections regarding mail-in ballots with few if any issues related to unsigned ballots. Research proves this.

On behalf of the 12,000 members of the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association, we urge your opposition to HB 67.

Sincerely,

Slighth & Weller

Elizabeth H. Weller President

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Virginia G. Crespo Legislative Aide