



**TESTIMONY FOR SB0236**  
**Election Law – Certification of Election-Supporting Technology**  
**Regulations, Review, and Evaluation**

**Bill Sponsor:** Senator Kagan

**Committee:** Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment

**Organization Submitting:** Maryland Legislative Coalition

**Person Submitting:** Aileen Alex, Cochair

**Position:** FAVORABLE

Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

I am submitting this testimony in support of SB0236 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. We are an association of unpaid citizen advocates—individuals and grassroots groups in every district across the state—representing and supporting more than 30,000 Marylanders.

SB0236 strengthens Maryland’s election infrastructure by requiring the State Board of Elections to adopt clear regulations for reviewing, certifying, and decertifying election-supporting technology. It also establishes an annual evaluation process to ensure that the systems we rely on remain secure, reliable, and responsive to emerging risks. These regulations must be in place by December 1, 2026, creating a firm and transparent timeline for implementation.

I am concerned that the kind of federal scrutiny currently being directed at Georgia and Puerto Rico—scrutiny that appears to be driven as much by political motives as by genuine oversight—could easily be aimed at Maryland. The reporting and evaluation requirements in SB0236 serve as a preventative measure. By maintaining rigorous, well-documented standards, Maryland can demonstrate that our election-supporting technology is secure, professionally managed, and worthy of public trust.

This legislation directly supports the mission of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. Our work centers on strengthening democratic participation, promoting transparency, and ensuring that every Marylander can rely on a fair and trustworthy electoral process. SB0236 advances these goals by reinforcing oversight, improving accountability, and safeguarding the integrity of the systems that underpin our elections. When voters

have confidence in the technology that records and counts their ballots, they are more empowered to participate fully in our democracy.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge a **FAVORABLE** report on SB0236.