

SB 236 Election Law - Certification of Election-Supporting Technology - Regulations, Review, and Evaluation.

Position - Favorable

February 9, 2026

To the Honorable Chair and Members of the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

My name is Lesley Frost and I am the Chair of National Council of Jewish Women, Maryland State Policy Advocacy Committee (NCJW MD SPA). I am writing on behalf of our 600 advocates across the state in support of SB 236 Election Law - Certification of Election-Supporting Technology - Regulations, Review, and Evaluation.

As more cities and counties explore ranked choice voting (RCV), it is vital to maintain consistent supporting technology for auditing and tabulation. Election administrators need access to reliable tools that have been vetted. All of the major vendors who provide election equipment are capable of conducting ranked choice voting elections. However, there are additional tools available that may be necessary.

SB 236 requires the state board of elections (SBE) to review and certify election technology that may be used to assist with the election tabulation or auditing process. Certifying election-supporting tools at the state level would be a cost-effective and time-saving measure for the SBE and local boards. It would reduce duplicate requests for certification, allowing local boards and elected officials to assess implementation needs and requirements with more confidence.

NCJW supports Ranked Choice Voting as a means to move us closer to a more democratic electoral system and SB 236, empowers local election administrators with trusted technology, reducing administrative burdens, and reinforcing Maryland's commitment to secure, transparent, and well-run elections.

I respectfully urge the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee to give SB 236 full consideration and a favorable report.

Lesley Frost  
Chair NCJW MD SPA, [ncjw.mdacts@gmail.com](mailto:ncjw.mdacts@gmail.com)

7707 Wisconsin Avenue  
Bethesda MD 20814 [lesleyfrost0@gmail.com](mailto:lesleyfrost0@gmail.com)