

**SB 848/HB 1448:** Municipal Elections - Reporting of Information to the State Board of Elections - Requirements: Please vote to **SUPPORT** this bill.

Dear Government, Labor & Elections Committee and Education, Energy & the Environment Committee:

I am writing as a resident of Maryland to urge you to vote to support SB **848/HB 1448**, Municipal Elections – Reporting of Information to the State Board of Elections – Requirements.

This common-sense legislation requires municipalities to submit important election information to the State Board of Elections, including:

- Qualifications to be a candidate for each office on the ballot
- A list of qualified candidates
- Clear details on voting procedures and polling locations

By centralizing this information with the State Board of Elections, the bill makes it significantly easier for Maryland voters to access accurate, consistent information about local municipal elections. Many municipalities hold elections on different schedules and under varying rules, which can create confusion for voters. This measure promotes greater transparency, improves public access to election details, and helps build trust in the electoral process without interfering in how municipalities actually run their elections.

Increased transparency in candidate qualifications and voting logistics strengthens democracy at the local level, helps ensure residents can fully participate in their municipal elections, and increases voters' trust in the election process.

I respectfully urge you to **support SB 848/HB 1448** and vote in favor of its final passage. This is a positive, low-cost step toward better-informed voters and more open local government.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Trudy Tibbals