

February 9, 2026

The Honorable **Senator Brian J. Feldman**
Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Support for SB 241 — Election Law — Automatic Restoration of Voter Registration Upon Release

Dear Chair Feldman and Vice Chair Cheryl C. Kagan,

Maryland Latinos Unidos (MLU) strongly supports **Senate Bill 241**, *Election Law — Individuals Released From State Correctional Facilities — Automatic Restoration of Voter Registration*, scheduled for hearing in the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee. This bill requires the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to transmit weekly release lists to the State Board of Elections and mandates automatic restoration of voter registration for individuals previously registered before incarceration.

Restoring voter registration automatically upon release removes bureaucratic barriers that prevent eligible individuals from participating in civic life. Latino voters are disproportionately justice impacted and face complex procedures to reengage in voting after incarceration. When registration is restored automatically, families, communities, and civic institutions benefit from fuller inclusion in democratic processes.

Implications for Latino and Immigrant Marylanders

Automatic restoration enhances community stability and representation. When eligible individuals are reconnected to voting without delay or confusion, it strengthens voice in decisions that shape housing, education, employment, and public safety. This policy combats disenfranchisement rooted in administrative obstruction and aligns Maryland with best practices for inclusive democracy.

MLU will work with reentry providers and community voters to share clear multilingual information and support outreach efforts tied to implementation.

MLU urges the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee to issue a favorable report on SB 241.

Sincerely,
Carlos Orbe, Jr.

Communications and Public Affairs Specialist

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