

Moms First - Support SB272
Senate Education, Energy and the Environment Committee

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of Moms First, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to building a country that truly values mothers through policies like paid leave and affordable, accessible childcare, we write to express our support for efforts to explore mobile voting as an additional, secure method of voting in Maryland city elections.

Every day, moms across Maryland balance work, caregiving, transportation, and household responsibilities. These realities often create significant time and logistical barriers to participating in elections. Arranging childcare, taking time away from work, or coordinating transportation to a polling place can make civic engagement far more complicated than it should be.

While vote-by-mail has expanded access, it does not eliminate all barriers. In areas with delayed or limited mail service, or for parents navigating unpredictable schedules, returning a ballot can still present challenges.

We believe cities should have the option to responsibly pilot secure, well-safeguarded mobile voting systems that meet rigorous security standards and maintain public trust. Expanding access – without replacing existing methods – can help ensure that eligible voters, including busy parents, are better able to participate in local democracy.

When caregivers can fully participate in civic life, communities benefit. Policies are stronger and more responsive when they reflect the lived experiences of families raising the next generation.

We respectfully urge you to consider policies that thoughtfully modernize local elections in ways that maintain security, transparency, and accessibility for today's families.

Thank you for your leadership and your commitment to an inclusive and secure democracy.

Sincerely,

Reshma
Moms First
