



February 23, 2026

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman, Chairman  
and Members of the Education, Energy and the Environment Committee  
Maryland Senate, Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Chair Feldman and Members:

RE: **SB0567**– In-Person Voting – Proof of Identity -- **SUPPORT**

The 1,300 members of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women strongly support SB0567 to require proof of identity for in-person voting in all elections. Polls show that **an overwhelming majority of Americans support voter ID**:

- Pew Research Center (August 2025) -- 83% of U.S. adults strongly favor or favor “requiring all voters to show government-issued photo identification to vote”
- Rasmussen Reports (January 2025) -- 77% of likely voters said requiring photo ID is “a reasonable measure to protect the integrity of elections”
- Gallup (October 2024) -- 84% of U.S. adults favored “requiring all voters to provide photo identification at their voting place”

The right to vote is one of Americans’ most precious rights. Ensuring that the person who appears at the polling place is, in fact, the voter whose name is on the registration record is a sacred duty. The most reliable method of ensuring that the person voting is the registered voter in the poll book is to **show a valid government-issued photo identification**.

Requiring that the election official view the photo ID not only aids in preventing fraudulent voting, it also avoids mistakes that can occur when a person states their name. It reduces the chance that the wrong voter could be checked off on the poll book when the election official both sees the voter’s ID and hears the voter state their name and address. Securing a valid government-issued photo identification is not difficult. **Most citizens currently possess a government-issued photo ID**. Photo identification cards are issued free of charge by the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration to individuals who do not have a driver’s license.

SB0567 provides several **reasonable accommodations** for a voter who does not possess a government-issued photo ID, including use of a non-government-issued photo ID along with a utility bill, a check or other document that states the voter’s name and address. The bill also provides that if the person does not have a photo-identification, they can vote a provisional ballot.

It is important that only American citizens vote in our elections. All citizens should be able to vote and to have that vote counted. When a non-citizen votes, it negates the vote of a citizen. This is unacceptable.

Please give a **FAVORABLE** report for **SB0567**.

Sincerely,

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