

Witness: Mary Nelson mgn136@gmail.com 443-485-0255
Jurisdiction: Cecil County

SB0236 Election Law – Certification of Election–Supporting Technology – Regulations, 2 Review, and Evaluation

UNFAVORABLE

While it sounds good to keep up the certification of election technology, the underlying point of this bill appears to require the machines to be certified for Ranked Choice Voting. RCV is the greatest way to disenfranchise voters there is. It is complicated, it is not understood by a voter who only votes for his/her first choice and the most important point is that you cannot accurately audit the votes. One example: If the first vote does not produce a majority for one candidate, everyone's 2nd choice is counted and the votes of the candidate with the fewest votes in the first round are moved to the candidates in the 2nd round. Now how many voters are in the room and how do you account for the number of votes that were voted? If you only voted for one person you have been disenfranchised from participation in the vote that chose the candidate because you did not understand the ramifications of only choosing one person.

Further if you have to choose 3 delegates, for example, as soon as one person receives a majority, the extra votes he/she received over the majority plus 1, are pulled out and their 2nd choices are applied to remaining candidates. How do you pick which ones are 'extra'? First, it is impossible to audit this accurately and second, who gets to decide which are the extra votes? That choice could alter who wins the next 2 spots.

It is misleading to present only part of the ramifications of a bill in the summary. That is happening in the general election ballots also. Think transparency.

I request an UNFAVORABLE VOTE.