

March 2, 2026

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman

Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

The Honorable Cheryl C. Kagan

Vice-Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

Members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

2 West Miller Senate Office Building

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: SB 845, Maryland Voter Registration List Accuracy and Integrity Act

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice-Chair Kagan, and Members:

I am writing to express my strong support for SB 845, the Maryland Voter Registration List Accuracy and Integrity Act. This legislation addresses the important issue of ensuring that deceased individuals are removed from Maryland's voter registration rolls in a timely and efficient manner. Promptly removing deceased voters will help strengthen public confidence in our election system. Accurate voter rolls are fundamental to maintaining trust in the integrity of our election administration. Utilizing reliable data from state and federal agencies to verify deaths is a practical and sensible approach that will streamline the removal process and improve the overall accuracy of Maryland's voter registration lists.

Placing the burden on grieving family members to notify election officials and provide death certificates or other documentation is neither compassionate nor efficient. Families may face delays during an already difficult time, and in some cases, notification may not occur at all. Establishing a systematic, agency-based verification process is both more humane and more effective.

The oversight provisions in this bill give it real strength and demonstrate that the General Assembly is serious about maintaining accurate voter rolls. Requiring the State Board to act when a local board is noncompliant is essential to ensuring the task is done. Establishing clear timelines for remediation, along with the authority to withhold funds from noncompliant local boards, helps guarantee that removing deceased voters from the voter registration list becomes a priority rather than an afterthought.

I urge you to give SB 845 a favorable committee report to help ensure an accurate voter registration list and to reinforce public trust in Maryland's election administration.

Sincerely,

Sallie Taylor

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