



# Maryland Association of Election Officials

## Representing the Local Election Boards of the State of Maryland

February 11, 2026

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

### **SB73 - Information**

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and Committee Members,

The Maryland Association of Election Officials (MAEO) is the professional membership organization representing local election officials and Election Boards across all 24 jurisdictions in the state. Our members are dedicated to ensuring the smooth and effective administration of elections, and we are deeply committed to making Maryland elections accessible, secure, and fair.

MAEO appreciates the intent behind Senate Bill 73 to improve voting access for elderly voters and voters with disabilities. Maryland election judges already receive training on assisting voters with diverse needs, ensuring accessibility without requiring individuals to disclose personal information. We offer a program that allows anyone to choose to sit and wait for their turn to check in rather than standing in line, if they so choose. Additionally, any voter, regardless of ability or disability, has access to a Ballot Marking Device (BMD) in the polling place, an accessible option and alternative to voters marking their ballots by hand. Lastly, some voting locations do not have the necessary space to fulfill the "dedicated expedited lines" and "priority seating in waiting areas" as outlined in the text of the bill.

We also wish to provide information on potential legal considerations related to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Under the ADA, election workers cannot ask voters if they have a disability, and Maryland does not require voter ID, making age verification impractical. Additionally, the bill's requirement to **segregate** voters into dedicated expedited lines could raise privacy concerns or create unintended barriers if voters feel pressured to disclose a disability.

MAEO remains committed to facilitating accessible elections and appreciates the opportunity to provide information on election administration considerations related to this legislation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.