

February 23, 2026

Written Testimony on SB 902
Submitted by the Electronic Security Association

Chairperson and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Electronic Security Association, which represents licensed electronic security and life safety providers in Maryland and nationwide, we respectfully urge your support for Senate Bill 902, the Safeguarding Election Candidates Using Reasonable Expenditures Act.

Threats directed at candidates and public officials have increased in recent years, often extending beyond the individual to their families and residences. At the same time, uncertainty in current law regarding the use of campaign funds for security related expenses can create confusion and discourage preventative action.

SB 902 provides needed clarity by confirming that candidates and officeholders may use campaign funds for reasonable security related expenses when those needs arise from public service. Covered measures include professionally designed, installed, and monitored security systems.

The legislation is carefully structured to operate within Maryland's existing campaign finance and transparency framework. It preserves reporting requirements and ethics safeguards while offering clear compliance guidance.

Allowing reasonable, preventative security measures under defined standards supports both personal safety and public confidence. SB 902 strikes an appropriate balance between transparency and protection.

For these reasons, ESA respectfully requests a favorable report on SB 902.

Respectfully submitted,

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