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Judicial Proceedings Committee  
Executive Nominations Committee

*Joint Committees*  
Administrative, Executive,  
and Legislative Review  
Children, Youth, and Families  
Program Open Space and Agricultural  
Land Preservation

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**Senate Bill 800 – Task Force on the Implementation of Approval Voting and Ranked-Choice Voting**

February 25, 2026

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

I am writing to express strong support for Senate Bill 800, which establishes the Task Force on the Implementation of Approval Voting and Ranked-Choice Voting. This legislation represents a critical step toward modernizing Maryland's electoral system by exploring innovative voting methods that have the potential to enhance fairness, voter engagement, and representation. By convening a diverse group of stakeholders—including legislators, election officials, local government representatives, academic experts, and civil rights advocates, the Task Force will ensure a comprehensive and balanced review of these systems. Such an inclusive approach is essential for evaluating administrative feasibility, fiscal impacts, and legal considerations before any changes are implemented.

Senate Bill 800 also prioritizes transparency and accountability by requiring the Task Force to examine best practices from other jurisdictions, assess impacts on voter participation and election outcomes, and develop actionable recommendations for legislative or administrative action. This deliberate and data-driven process will help Maryland identify opportunities to strengthen democratic participation while safeguarding election integrity.

I thank you for your time and I urge a favorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike McKay".

Senator Mike McKay  
Representing the Appalachia Region of Maryland  
Serving Garrett, Allegany, and Washington Counties