

March 30, 2026

Education, Energy, and the Environment (EEE) Committee
Maryland Senate
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: House Bill 1448 — Municipal Elections

Position: FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS

Dear Honorable Chair Feldman and EEE Committee Members:

Ranked Choice Voting Maryland (RCV Maryland) is dedicated to improving elections at all levels. Our mission focus includes ensuring municipal residents are informed about election dates, voting locations, and tabulation procedures.

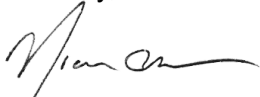
We support HB 1448 with the following amendment to ensure tabulation procedures for municipalities that have adopted or use ranked choice voting are available to the public and reviewed by the State Board of Elections for compliance.

Proposed Amendment:

ANY MUNICIPALITY THAT CONDUCTS ELECTIONS USING RANKED-CHOICE VOTING
SHALL PROVIDE REGULATIONS ON THE TABULATION OF RANKED BALLOTS TO THE
STATE BOARD FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL FOR USE WITH STATE VOTING EQUIPMENT.

We urge the Committee to include this amendment and appreciate the work of the bill sponsors to bring more transparency and awareness to municipal elections.

Sincerely,



Michelle C. Whittaker
Executive Director

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