

ARTHUR ELLIS, CPA
Legislative District 28
Charles County

DEPUTY MAJORITY LEADER

Finance Committee

Vice Chair, Rules Committee

Senate Chair

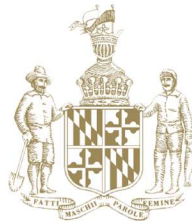
Joint Committee on the
Management of Public Funds

Senate Chair

Joint Committee on
Workers' Compensation Benefit and
Insurance Oversight

Senate Chair, Charles County Delegation

Chair, Select Committee Southern
Maryland



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
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Sponsor Written Testimony: Favorable
Senate Bill 0073: Election Law – Polling Place Procedures – Voting by Elderly Voters and
Voters With Disabilities (Accessible and Expedited Voting Act of Maryland)

February 9, 2026

Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and esteemed members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee:

I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill 73, which would establish guidelines for the local boards of election to implement a process to accommodate and expedite voting for elderly voters with disabilities at each early voting center and polling place.

There are barriers for elderly voters and voters with disabilities for those participating in person at voting locations such as long lines and lack of seating. These constituents are discouraged from voting in person because of these barriers in Maryland (Benenati, 2025). This bill would overcome these barriers by implementing regulations such as dedicated expedited lines, clearly marked signage indicating the availability of expedited services, priority seating in waiting areas, and specific provisions for high-traffic early voting centers and polling places.

The local boards have the responsibility of guaranteeing that these guidelines are implemented, collecting feedback from elderly voters and voters with disabilities, and making immediate adjustments to the process as necessary. I ask for a favorable report on Senate Bill 73.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Arthur Ellis".

Arthur Ellis, CPA