

FAV_Rep.April.Delaney

Uploaded by: Congresswoman April Delaney

Position: FAV



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March 17, 2026

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

Dear Chair Feldman,

I write to express my full support for *Senate Bill 962 - January 6th Insurrectionists - Prohibition on Service in Certain Government Roles*. This bill will protect our state's institutions from individuals who have shown their willingness to resort to violence to achieve their political goals. These actions and those who are willing to take them have no place in our state government.

The January 6, 2021 attack on the United States Capitol represents one of the darkest moments in our national history. As we all know, that day we witnessed Americans, at the direction of the President of the United States, storm the Capitol to disrupt the constitutionally-required certification of the 2020 Presidential election in a joint session of Congress. The chaos unleashed by the President's supporters damaged our Capitol, caused countless injuries and several tragic deaths, and forever stained our shared American experiment.

Following the attack, the Department of Justice charged more than 1,500 individuals with a variety of criminal charges, resulting in more than 1,000 rioters being put behind bars.¹ More than 1,000 rioters confessed or pleaded guilty to offenses including assault of law enforcement officers, trespass, and seditious conspiracy. Those prosecuted were given due process under the law, and many were duly convicted by a jury of their peers.

After retaking the Presidency, President Trump pardoned or commuted the sentences of all of his rioters for their clearly unlawful conduct on January 6th. The very people who attacked the heart of

¹ Alanna Durkin Richer, Michael Kunzelman & Eric Tucker, *Here's where Jan. 6 trials stand on the fourth anniversary of the Capitol riot*, PBS NewsHour (Jan. 6, 2025),

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/heres-where-jan-6-trials-stand-on-the-fourth-anniversary-of-the-capitol-riot>

our national democracy, the reliability and trustworthiness of our institutions, were released from jails and given a legal token of appreciation from the President who ordered their unlawful attack.

Although the President has broad authority to commute or pardon criminals convicted of federal crimes, the state has both the authority and responsibility to run our agencies, commissions, and boards in ways that align with our values. Those who attacked the Capitol on January 6th showed their disdain for our institutions and representative democracy. Senate Bill 962 is an important step in ensuring that we uphold the integrity of our state government by prohibiting insurrectionists from serving in state government. By prohibiting those who were convicted of crimes connected to the January 6th insurrection, this bill would make certain that we can trust our state government institutions.

I strongly urge this committee to give *January 6th Insurrectionists - Prohibition on Service in Certain Government Roles* favorable consideration and I thank you and your committee for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "April McClain Delaney", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

April McClain Delaney
Member of Congress

SB962 Favorable 2026.pdf

Uploaded by: Debi Jasen

Position: FAV

Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
Senate Bill 962
Favorable

Honorable Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee;

Please give Senate Bill 962 a favorable report. Traitors to this country should not be permitted to serve in any government role whatsoever. I'll take what I can get this year, but would appreciate it if you'd put forth a bill next year to prevent them from being legislators, judges, or governors. They've already shown a complete disregard for the Constitution and can't be trusted. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Debi Jasen
Pasadena, MD

SB0962_Testimony_3-13-26_js.pdf

Uploaded by: Joyce Sims

Position: FAV

Testimony on Senate Bill - **FAVORABLE**

SB0962 - January 6th Insurrectionists - Prohibition on Service in Certain Government Roles

Committee: Education, Energy, and the Environment

March 13, 2026

Honorable Committee Members: My name is Joyce Sims and I appreciate this opportunity to offer comments on SB0962 outlining public service restrictions for persons convicted of crimes related to the January 6, 2021 attack on the U.S. Capitol

As many others did, I watched in horror as livestream videos showed hundreds of people leaving the speech given by Donald Trump and marching directly to the U.S. Capitol where the process for peaceful transfer of power was underway. These people did not arrive to simply protest, as permitted by our Constitution; they brandished flagpoles, chemical sprays, and other items as weapons against the Capitol Police who were stationed at building entrance that day. Bike racks set up as barriers by the Capitol Police were picked up and used as weapons by the crowd as they swarmed over the vastly outnumbered law enforcement officers. They built a gallows and called for the Vice President to be hung. Someone used a fire extinguisher to break a window so people could climb into the building. It's not feasible or necessary to describe everything all that that happened, except to note that many law enforcement officers paid a terrible price for doing their jobs; for protecting members of Congress.

The people who stood trial and were duly convicted of crimes as a result of their actions that day were pardoned; they were told they were patriots. Most reasonable people understand that is not the case.

Given these extraordinary circumstances, it would be unreasonable to have anyone convicted of crimes related to events of that day - January 6, 2021, even if pardoned, holding a position of power or authority. This bill would prevent such persons from serving on boards, committees, commissions, and other such workgroups created by authority of the State, and to remove or terminate employment of any such person serving in violation thereof.

Thank you for your favorable vote on SB0962.

Joyce Sims

Mechanicsville MD 20659

FAV_A.G.

Uploaded by: Retired Sgt. Aquilino Gonell

Position: FAV

Position: Favorable

Name: Retired Sergeant Aquilino A. Gonell

SB962: January 6th Insurrectionists - Prohibition on Service in Certain Government Roles

Date: 17 March 2026

The violence of January 6th was a direct assault to our system of governance and democracy. Law enforcement officers and many lives were threatened and put at risk by Trump's supporters. Those who participated in the attack should not be rewarded with government jobs, restitution or positions of public trust. They were not defending the constitution; they betrayed it and turned their back on the rule of law.

Testimony in support of SB0962 - J6 Insurrectionis

Uploaded by: Richard KAP Kaplowitz

Position: FAV

SB0962_RichardKaplowitz_FAV
03/16/2026
Richard Keith Kaplowitz
Frederick, MD 21703

TESTIMONY ON SB#/0962 – FAVORABLE

January 6th Insurrectionists - Prohibition on Service in Certain Government Roles

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

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard K. Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB#0962, January 6th Insurrectionists - Prohibition on Service in Certain Government Roles

The House Committee on the Judiciary ranking member Democrat Jamie Raskin has noted *Trump's Jan. 6 pardons look even more awful a year later - Although Trump campaigned on pardoning Jan. 6 offenders, even those close to him did not anticipate that Trump would go as far as he did.*¹

The first major act of President Donald Trump's second term was granting [an Inauguration Day pardon](#) to all the rioters and insurrectionists who stormed the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021. As dreadful as it was a year ago that Trump excused and blessed mass street violence against the constitutional order, the decision [looks even worse today](#), as unleashing authoritarian government violence against the people becomes the defining agenda of the Trump administration. While many Jan. 6 offenders have gone on to commit [new violent crimes](#), making a mockery of the concept of clemency, the key planners of Trump's Jan. 6 coup and its apologists have become [critical actors in the administration](#). The consequences of this criminal permissiveness are — no surprise — more crime. [A report by our House Judiciary Committee Democratic staff](#) found that at least 33 pardoned rioters have faced new criminal charges since Jan. 6, 2021, and several have reoffended since receiving their pardons a year ago.

This bill will prohibit individuals convicted of certain crimes in relation to the attack on the United States Capitol on January 6, 2021, from serving on a board, committee, commission, task force, or workgroup created by state law, in the executive service of state government, or in a special appointment in state government; and require an appointing authority to take certain actions to remove or terminate the employment of an individual serving in a role in violation of the Act. While Trump may have pardoned them to reward their lawlessness on his behalf the state of Maryland should and must not let these convicted criminals be rewarded by serving in any position of public trust in the state. Their actions should disqualify them.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report and pass SB0962.

¹ <https://democrats-judiciary.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/new-in-ms-now-ranking-member-raskin-trump-s-jan-6-pardons-look-even-more-awful-a-year-later#:~:text=The%20first%20major%20act%20of,6%2C%202021.>

Sen. Kagan Testimony SB962_ Preventing Insurrectio

Uploaded by: Sen. Cheryl Kagan

Position: FAV

CHERYL C. KAGAN
Legislative District 17
Montgomery County

Vice Chair
Education, Energy, and
the Environment Committee

Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee
Joint Committee on Federal Relations



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

SB962 Testimony: Preventing Insurrectionists from Holding Public Office

Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

Tuesday, March 17, 2026 1PM

The January 6, 2021 attack on the U.S. Capitol was a direct assault on the peaceful transfer of power and the rule of law. On that day, thousands of people came to Washington, D.C., to rally on the Ellipse. This gathering was peaceful and lawful, protected by the First Amendment's guarantees of free speech and freedom to assemble. Unfortunately, what began as a legal demonstration degenerated into a violent attack on the Capitol by an angry mob. Law enforcement officers were assaulted with flagpoles, stun guns, crutches, bear spray, and stolen police shields. Five officers died as a result of physical or emotional injuries suffered that day.

Over the months and years that followed, hundreds of individuals were arrested and prosecuted. Ultimately, roughly 250 were convicted of crimes ranging from assault and weapons offenses to seditious conspiracy and trespassing. On his Inauguration Day, Donald Trump issued a blanket pardon for these convictions. The record of their criminal conduct remains. Those who were convicted of crimes related to the insurrection have demonstrated an intent to undermine constitutional government and should not ever be entrusted with positions of public authority.

SB962, co-sponsored by **every** Democratic Senator, would prohibit any individual convicted of participating in the January 6, 2021 insurrection from serving on any state board, commission, workgroup, task force, or other entity that exercises public power or public trust. This legislation would establish clear and objective standards to prevent individuals who engaged in insurrectionary conduct from holding positions that shape public policy, oversee public resources, or exercise governmental authority. It affirms that service in public office or on boards and commissions is an honor and a responsibility-- one that should only be entrusted to individuals who respect democracy and the Constitution.

This bill draws a bright line of accountability and consequences. By establishing objective standards, Maryland can reinforce the principle that violent insurrection and attacks on our democracy are incompatible with public service.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge a favorable report on SB962.

2026 SB0962 Testimony Against 2026-03-17.pdf

Uploaded by: Alan Lang

Position: UNF

Testimony Against SB0962

Honorable Senators

Please enter an unfavorable decision about SB0962.

I am opposed to

- Prohibiting individuals convicted of certain crimes in relation to the attack on the United States Capitol on January 6, 2021, from serving on a board, committee, commission, task force, or workgroup created by state law, in the executive service of state government, or in a special appointment in state government; and
- requiring an appointing authority to take certain actions to remove or terminate the employment of an individual serving in a role in violation of the Act.

According to the Fiscal and Policy note, “This bill prohibits an individual convicted of a crime in relation to the attack on the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021 from serving on:

- (1) a board, committee, commission, task force, or workgroup created by State law;
- (2) in the executive service of State government as defined under the State Personnel Management System (SPMS); or
- (3) in a position categorized as a special appointment under SPMS.

The prohibition applies regardless of whether the individual was subsequently pardoned.”

First of all, I am outraged that the writers of this bill continue to state the canard that police officers were killed during the attack on January 6th. No police officers were killed that day. The only 4 people who died that day were demonstrators, of which 2 were killed directly by police actions and 2 died from heart attacks after the flash bangs were shot into the crowd. I do not disagree that many courageous police officers were injured that day and that some died a few days later (I believe by suicide and stroke).

While I agree that those who injured law enforcement officials or damaged property in the Capitol should be barred from ever holding any public office, I disagree that all who were convicted should be treated so harshly. Many of those convicted of a crime were guilty at most of trespassing even though several of them were invited into the Capitol by Capitol Police or entered in unguarded doors just to see what was going on. Some were guilty of just walking in to use the bathroom and quickly exiting because the Mayor had locked all the portable toilets on the mall.

Because of an overzealous prosecutor, these people were given the harshest possible sentences for what should have at most a minor fine. Instead, these people were denied bail and waited months in jail before sentencing. After that treatment almost all plead guilty to avoid unjustly being charged with felonies for disrupting an official proceeding even though many entered after the proceeding had already been canceled.

Testimony Against SB0962

Many of these people came to the mall that day to hear the President speak about the 2020 election and to then go to Congress to give moral support to the Representatives and Senators from at least 6 states who were going to present up to 2 hours each of evidence of possible election discrepancies, irregularities, and instances of not following election laws. The purpose of these speeches was to persuade the House and/or Senate to agree to delay certification for one or more States until these alleged discrepancies could be investigated.

Just like the peaceful rally held on December 12, 2019, the people who arrived on January 6 expected another peaceful rally. This was not a planned insurrection. They had hoped those scheduled to speak in the House and Senate would present many hours of testimony about possible election irregularities and red flags of possible fraud that the national press and news media had refused to publish.

Instead, what started as a peaceful rally degenerated into a riot when the Capitol Police, without provocation, fired flash bangs into the crowd. Then anti-Trump agitators dressed as MAGA supporters and some hot-headed, misguided Trump supporters attacked the police. By doing so, the planned hours of nationally televised testimony about election irregularities was canceled. Whatever slim chance we had of Congress delaying certification disappeared as well.

Because of the harsh treatment many of these so-called insurrectionists received (jail time for trespassing with no evidence of attacking the police or destroying property), President Trump granted them pardons. A few never even entered the Capitol that day, yet were convicted of it anyway.

I believe that in a State where juveniles who have committed major felonies such as murder, rape, car-jacking have receive virtually no punishment, that you should not punish these so-called insurrectionists further by barring them from State employment should they seek it. Perhaps you could amend the bill to only bar those who attacked law enforcement or vandalized property.

Unless you amend the bill to limit it to those convicted of assault or vandalism, please enter an unfavorable decision about SB0962.

Alan Lang
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March 13, 2026

SB 962_ January 6th Insurrectionists - Prohibitio

Uploaded by: Trudy Tibbals

Position: UNF

SB 962: January 6th Insurrectionists - Prohibition on Service in Certain Government Roles: Please vote to **OPPOSE** this bill.

Dear Education, Energy & the Environment Committee:

I am writing to strongly urge you to **OPPOSE SB 962** during committee consideration or floor votes.

This bill is partisan, overreaching, and unnecessary. Such measures politicize government employment and elected office, setting a dangerous precedent for disqualifying individuals based on past political involvement or protest activity.

The U.S. Constitution and Maryland law already provide mechanisms for disqualifying individuals convicted of serious crimes (e.g., felonies barring voting rights until completion of sentence, or constitutional bars for insurrection under the 14th Amendment). Adding a state-specific ban for January 6-related offenses duplicates these protections while selectively targeting one side of a political divide, **undermining fairness and equal treatment under the law.**

Maryland should focus on policies that unite residents and promote good governance—not divide us with bills that appear motivated by political retaliation rather than objective public safety needs.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask you to **vote against SB 962** and oppose legislation that imposes partisan disqualifications on government service.

Thank you for your attention to this important fairness, constitutional rights, and non-partisan governance issue.

Sincerely,

Trudy Tibbals