

HB1066_RichardKaplowitz_FAV

02/25/2026

Richard Keith Kaplowitz

Frederick, MD 21703

TESTIMONY ON HB#1066- POSITION: FAVORABLE

Municipal Elections - Qualified Electronic Transmission Systems - Authorization for Use

TO: Chair Wells, Vice Chair Kerr, and members of the Government, Labor and Elections Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB#1066, **Municipal Elections - Qualified Electronic Transmission Systems - Authorization for Use**

This bill will have two purposes. First, it will define and permit a “qualified electronic transmission system”, an electronic transmission system through which a qualified voter may receive, mark, and return a ballot and that maintains reasonable data security and voter integrity protections. Second, a municipality may not use information received from a voter using a qualified electronic transmission system in a municipal election for any purpose other than election administration and voter participation statistics.

This bill will authorize a municipality to conduct a municipal election through the use of a qualified electronic transmission system; and prohibiting a municipality from using information received from a voter using a qualified electronic transmission system for certain purposes.

This bill will expand the availability of safe election processes. As a partially disabled person living in a senior community this could expand ways that my community can vote without the need to leave home to do so. Other groups with access problems to voting sites will also benefit if this methodology is made available.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB#1066.