

HB0662_RichardKaplowitz_FAV

02/18/2026

Richard Keith Kaplowitz

Frederick, MD 21703

TESTIMONY ON HB#/0662- POSITION: FAVORABLE

Election Law - Election Judges - Compensation for Public School Students

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#/0662, **Election Law - Election Judges - Compensation for Public School Students**

16 and 17 year olds can serve as election judges with parental permission and earn payment for that work. ¹ Frederick County specifically states *Be an Election Worker - You can earn money for your public service by working as an election judge (worker)*. ²

This bill Authorizing a public school student in the State both to earn hours toward the service-learning graduation requirement and to receive election judge compensation for service as an election judge. The Maryland State Department of Education has the *Maryland Service-Learning Graduation Requirement - Maryland Public Schools* ³

The Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) is the official compilation of all administrative regulations issued by agencies of the state of Maryland.

Regulations governing the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) fall under Title 13A.

This bill will now make the hours of service as an election worker a qualified service learning for high school graduation requirements.

It will accomplish this goal by authorizing a public-school student in the State both to earn hours toward the service-learning graduation requirement and to receive election judge compensation for service as an election judge. Maryland can make civic service a qualifying item.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB#/0662.

¹ https://elections.maryland.gov/get_involved/election_judges_form.html

² <https://www.frederickcountymd.gov/3227/Be-an-Election-Worker>

³ <https://marylandpublicschools.org/programs/pages/service-learning/graduation-requirement.aspx>