

Bill number: HB 1010

Position: FAV

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Government, Labor, and Elections Committee
Maryland House of Delegates
145 Lowe House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

House Bill 1010 (Election Law - Certification of Election-Supporting Technology - Regulations, Review, and Evaluation) – FAV

Dear Government, Labor, and Elections Committee Members,

I urge you to support HB 1010.

I have great appreciation for our election judges and administrators, who work on behalf of our communities to run our elections. Having engaged with many of them across the years while at the polls and in other discussions, I have repeatedly come away feeling that their dedication to this job is central to our democracy.

As an increasing number of jurisdictions consider election reforms, including ranked choice voting, it is important to have robust election tools that have been vetted at the state level. Doing so supports our election officials, and our democracy more generally.

I am strongly in favor of steps we can take to strengthen our democracy. For a vibrant democracy, we need to decrease barriers to running for office by truly welcoming all candidates without concern about spoiler candidates. We need to ensure voters can express their full preferences. We need to have every vote contribute to the outcome. For these reasons, I am in strongly in favor of adopting ranked choice voting.

HB1010 would direct the State Board of Elections to certify election-supporting technology for ranked choice voting elections. As more jurisdictions explore or adopt ranked choice voting, election administrators need access to reliable tools that have been vetted at the state level.

I hope that Maryland will help lead the way to stronger elections.

Please vote to empower local election administrators with trusted technology and support secure, transparent, and well-run elections by supporting our election officials. Please support HB 1010.

Sincerely,

Alexandra (Alexa) Bely
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