

ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT
**COMMISSIONERS OF
ST. MARY'S COUNTY**



James R. Guy, President
Michael R. Alderson, Jr., Commissioner
Eric S. Colvin, Commissioner
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner

HB 565
County Boards of Education - Elections - District Voting
(Fair Representation Act)

COMMITTEE: Government, Labor and Elections
POSITION: Oppose

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County oppose **HB 565 - County Boards of Education - Elections - District Voting (Fair Representation Act)**. This bill would require an election of members of the Calvert County, Cecil County, Garrett County, Montgomery County, Queen Anne's County, and St. Mary's County boards of education who represent a specific district to be decided by a plurality of the votes cast within that district.

Decisions about form and character of local governments are best left in the hands of the local voters who live there— not imposed by state-authorized “one-size fits all” mandates.

We urge you to **report unfavorably on HB 565**. Thank you for your consideration as well as your attention to this matter, and thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Sincerely,

COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY


James Randy Guy, President

CSMC/AB/jb
T:/Consent/2026/004

Cc: Senator Jack Bailey
Delegate Matthew Morgan
Delegate Brian Crosby
Commissioner Mike Alderson, Jr.
Commissioner Eric Colvin
Commissioner Michael Hewitt
Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow
David Weiskopf, County Administrator
David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator
Buffy Giddens, County Attorney
John Sterling Houser, Deputy County Attorney