

HB0641_RichardKaplowitz_FAV

02/18/2026

Richard Keith Kaplowitz
Frederick, MD 21703

TESTIMONY ON HB#/0641- POSITION: FAVORABLE

Election Law - Curbside Voting - Pilot Program

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#/0641, **Election Law - Curbside Voting - Pilot Program**

This bill is personal for me. I am 73 years old and I am mobility challenged. I use a mobility scooter and cane to walk and allow me to sit and move. I cannot stand for long periods of time without sitting. My scooter is portable but does not do well in rainy conditions. If there is a line at a polling place I have to unload that scooter for access and to give me the seat I need while waiting in line to vote. Rain makes that a very burdensome task. Thus, having the option to vote from inside my car could be critical to maintaining the right to cast my ballot at the election site.

This bill can assist me and others who share my lack of mobility by establishing the Curbside Voting Pilot Program to test the viability of curbside voting in the State; establishing requirements governing curbside voting; and requiring the State Board to report to the General Assembly on the implementation of the Pilot Program by September 1, 2031.

My hope is that the immediate benefits can be realized and demonstrated so strongly that the implementation of this program will be accelerated sooner than 2031. When this bill is passed, I will urge the Frederick County Board of Elections to join the pilot program. Frederick County has one in five residents older than age 60 and 10% with a reported disability as of FY2024. ¹ I believe a pilot program here in Frederick will respond to these statistics.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB#/0641.

¹ <https://frederickcountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/355659/FFY24-Infographic-1-in-5>