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SALISBURY, MD
21801

City of Salisbury MARYLAND



COUNCILMEMBER MICHELE GREGORY

February 23, 2026

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 proudly serve the residents of Salisbury as a City Councilmember. Strong local elections require dedicated individuals, access to best practices, and trusted tools. It is for those reasons that I urge you to support HB 1010, Election Law - Certification of Election-Supporting Technology - Regulations, Review, and Evaluation.

Our election administrators at the local and state level do extraordinary work to ensure our elections are secure, accurate, and accessible. We entrust them to run our elections and it is imperative that we equip them with the tools to do the work.

A January 2026 analysis by Johns Hopkins University Whiting School of Engineering of the City of Salisbury municipal elections revealed that since 2009 city elections “have been decided with pluralities below 50%,” providing a fragile mandate to winners. The analysis provided a comparison of electoral system changes – including ranked choice voting. Shifting to a ranked choice voting system could “more consistently align outcomes with majority voter preferences;” however, there are upfront administrative changes that may include equipment and procedural updates.

As a local leader, I want to equip our election staff with trusted tools. While the City of Salisbury has not taken action to move to RCV elections, HB 1010 would help the city better evaluate the feasibility of implementing a new voting method.

By supporting HB 1010, you are empowering local election administrators with trusted technology, reducing administrative burdens, and reinforcing Maryland's commitment to secure, transparent, and well-run elections. We should continue supporting the election officials who work tirelessly to ensure every Marylander's vote is counted accurately and fairly.

I respectfully urge the Government, Labor, and Elections Committee to give HB1010 full consideration and a favorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, reading "Michele Gregory". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michele" and the last name "Gregory" clearly distinguishable.

Councilmember Michele Gregory
Salisbury City Council, District 4
709 Parkway Ave.
Salisbury, MD 21804