



# MARYLAND FORWARD PARTY

*Not Left. Not Right. Forward.*

**BILL NO:** HB1010

**TITLE:** Election Law - Certification of Election-Supporting Technology - Regulations, Review, and Evaluation

**COMMITTEE:** Government, Labor and Elections

**POSITION:** FAVORABLE

**DATE:** February 23, 2026

**TO:** Chair Wells, Vice Chair Kerr, and Members of the Committee

**FROM:** Maryland Forward Party

**SUBJECT: Election Law - Certification of Election-Supporting Technology - Regulations, Review, and Evaluation**

Maryland Forward Party, representing a growing coalition including the state's large Unaffiliated population, **supports HB1010**, which keeps our voting systems safe, modern and flexible for future reforms..

1. **Maintaining Public Trust in Our Elections:** Clearly defined regulations and regular reviews promote transparency and keep the public informed about updates and improvements to our electoral system.
2. **Regular Review and Evaluation Keep Maryland Modern:** Technology, equipment, and software are evolving rapidly. Maryland should lead the nation by staying ahead of these changes while tracking costs and statewide voting reforms.
3. **Supporting Unaffiliated Voters:** Maryland now has nearly 1 million unaffiliated voters—almost 25% of the electorate. As this group continues to grow, many are calling for access to primary elections and reforms such as ranked-choice, approval, and STAR voting. Regular evaluation of our election technology is essential to assess and support these potential changes.

We thank the sponsor for this initiative and urge a **FAVORABLE** report.

Sincerely,

*Lee Bradshaw*

**Legislative Committee Chair**

Maryland Forward Party