

IndivisibleHoCoMD



TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 241

Sponsor: Senator Augustine

**Election Law – Individuals Released From State Correctional Facilities –
Automatic Restoration of Voter Registration**

POSITION: Favorable

**by: Marijane Monck, Defend Democracy Team Lead,
Indivisible Howard County**

Date: 3/30/26

On behalf of our 1800+ Indivisible Howard County members, I am writing in support of SB 241. IndivisibleHoCoMD is an informal group of citizens in Howard County, MD, registered with the Indivisible Project's national network of local grassroots groups. We believe in fairness, tolerance, inclusion, and democracy.

SB 241 strengthens our democracy by automatically restoring voter registration for individuals released from state correctional facilities. While current law restores voting rights upon release, many people face confusion or administrative barriers that delay their return to the electorate. This bill creates a clear, automatic process that removes those obstacles and supports successful reentry. Voting is a fundamental way returning citizens reconnect with their communities and participate in civic life. By ensuring timely restoration of voter registration, SB241 advances equity, expands democratic participation, and helps build a more inclusive and representative democracy for all Marylanders.

Indivisible Howard County urges a FAVORABLE report on SB 241.