

**February 11, 2026**

**Testimony on HB 350  
Voting Rights Act of 2026 – Counties and Municipal Corporations  
Government, Labor, and Elections Committee  
Position: FAVORABLE**

As a constituent of St. Mary's County, Maryland, I strongly urge a favorable vote on HB 350 to counter vote dilution in Maryland.

On the local level at-large voting among county districts has a long history of preventing citizens of a district with particular interests and needs from electing those who will represent them. Rather, their votes have been diluted by the combined voting of the other districts. The effect has been lack of representation, the very purpose of the right to vote.

The protections outlined in HB 350 are essential to ensuring that all Marylanders, particularly those from historically disenfranchised communities, have the equal opportunity to elect representatives of their choice.

Please give HB 350 a favorable vote to correct the disenfranchisement generated by the current system.

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