

# IndivisibleHoCoMD



## **TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE**

Government, Labor, and Elections

**HB 1378**

**Bill Sponsors:** Delegates Terrasa, Lehman, and Ruth

**POSITION: Favorable**

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

**Date: 3/2/2026**

On behalf of our 1700+ Indivisible Howard County members, I am writing in support of HB 1378. 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.

The 2010 Citizens United Supreme Court decision fundamentally altered U.S. elections by allowing corporations, unions, and associations to spend unlimited, undisclosed funds on independent political ads. It struck down bans on corporate/union electioneering communications, ushering in the era of super PACs and massive "dark money" expenditures, which increased over 28-fold between 2008 and 2024.

This bill places real limits on how corporations can influence elections and ballot questions, restoring some balance to a system that has tilted toward concentrated wealth. Democracy cannot function when the loudest voice belongs to whomever can write the biggest check.

HB1378 could substantially erode the corrupting effect of the 2010 *Citizens United* ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court. That ruling said that corporations - for profit and nonprofit - spend unlimited sums to influence the outcomes of elections. HB1378 is a necessary step toward reclaiming political power for the public.

**Indivisible Howard County, representing 1700+ citizens in Maryland, urges a favorable report on HB1378.**