

Testimony from
Kurt Engel
to Support Passage of
Fair Representation Act (HB 565)

I am writing to encourage passage of the Fair Representation Act. As a resident of St Mary's County, I have seen first-hand what happens when voting at large dilutes the vote. Like a small minority of the counties in Maryland, all members of the St Mary's County Board of Education are elected by the county at large. The issue for St Mary's is that the demographics of the four individual districts that make up the county are very different. With at large voting, the vote of the individual districts is diluted, and they are not able to elect fair representation to represent their district members. District based voting should be implemented for all county Boards of Education.

Please pass the Fair Representation Act.