

**Testimony on House Bill HB145 – Favorable**  
HB145 Election Law - Election Misinformation, Election Disinformation, and Deepfakes  
House - Government, Labor, and Elections  
February 2, 2026

Dear Members of the Government, Labor, and Elections Committee,

My name is Michelle Koul, and I am a constituent of District 31. I am writing **to support HB145 – Election Law - Election Misinformation, Election Disinformation, and Deepfakes.**

I have served as an election judge since accusations of voter fraud became prevalent. I found myself returning to serve in future elections as I enjoyed working with the citizens of both parties who, like myself, consider the act of voting a privilege and a duty. I know as an election judge I am supposed to do all I can to ensure eligible voters can cast their vote. I find it disturbing that new technology could be used to disenfranchise voters.

While technology has the power to do a lot of good, it's also important that we prevent our adversaries from using it to harm us. AI-generated deepfakes make it easy to generate hyper-realistic yet completely fake election-related materials and pose a clear and present risk to our elections and our democracy. For example, in January 2024, thousands of New Hampshire voters picked up their phones to hear what sounded like the president telling citizens not to vote in the state's primary, just days away. While AI was not particularly disruptive in 2024, without decisive action AI-fueled deception could become an enduring feature of political campaigns, eroding the very foundation of democratic governance.<sup>1</sup>

This bill would help to protect every American's right to cast a ballot based on truth. Please submit a **favorable** report on **HB145 – Election Law - Election Misinformation, Election Disinformation, and Deepfakes.**

Thank you for your time and consideration,  
*Dr. Michelle Koul (she/her)*  
*Severna Park, MD 21146*

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/analysis-opinion/gauging-ai-threat-free-and-fair-elections>