



Position: Favorable
Government, Labor and Election Committee
HB0182/SB0237: Election Law- Presidential Electors- Selection and Voting

To: The Honorable Delegates Wells, Kerr, Chisholm, Ciliberti, Clippinger, Crutchfield, Fair, Fisher, Lehman, Ruth, Sample-Hughes and Schindler

Greetings Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Government, Labor, and Elections Committee,

My name is Patricia Watson, and I am writing today on behalf of Black Girls Vote, a nonpartisan civic engagement organization focused on voter education, access, and participation.

At Black Girls Vote, we do not tell people who to vote for or what party to support. Our work is centered on ensuring that voters understand the process, trust the system, and have confidence that their participation is respected and reflected accurately—especially in elections that carry significant national and historical weight.

Presidential elections are often a defining moment for civic engagement. For many voters, they are the first election they participate in, and for others, they shape long-term trust in democratic institutions. Because of that, the processes that take place after ballots are cast matter just as much as the act of voting itself.

Clear, transparent, and consistent procedures for the selection and conduct of presidential electors play a critical role in maintaining public confidence. When voters understand that there are well-defined safeguards, oversight, and documentation throughout the electoral process, they are more likely to trust that the outcomes reflect their collective will.

From a voter education perspective, uncertainty is one of the greatest threats to confidence. When post-election processes appear unclear, inconsistent, or poorly communicated, misinformation can take hold and undermine trust. Establishing clear procedures for meetings, administration, certification, and transmission of election results helps ensure that the electoral process remains orderly, transparent, and credible from start to finish.

This clarity is especially important for communities that have historically faced barriers to participation or skepticism about whether the system works for them. Voters deserve assurance that elections are conducted with integrity at every stage—not just on Election Day.

Elections don't start when polls open or end when they close. Trust begins with clear selection processes, is reinforced by what happens next, and is earned through a demonstrated commitment to the good of the community.



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Thank you for your time and for your continued work to protect the integrity, transparency, and public confidence in Maryland's elections.

Respectfully submitted,

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