

February 23, 2026

Government, Labor, and Elections Committee
Maryland House of Delegates
145 Lowe House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**House Bill 1010 - Election Law - Certification of Election-Supporting Technology -
Regulations, Review, and Evaluation - FAV**

Dear Government, Labor, and Elections Committee Members:

My name is Heather Reichardt. I am a citizen in Montgomery County. I urge you to support **HB 1010 (SB 236)**, *Election Law - Certification of Election-Supporting Technology - Regulations, Review, and Evaluation*.

Our election administrators at the local and state level do extraordinary work to ensure our elections are secure, accurate, and accessible. We entrust them to run our elections, and it is imperative that we equip them with the tools to do the work.

My friends who are election judges work extremely hard before and during the election to ensure the election process runs smoothly in their precincts. I know that some folks work past midnight on Election Day.

HB 1010/SB 236 is an important bill in supporting this vital democracy work. This bill would direct the State Board of Elections to certify election-supporting technology for ranked choice voting elections. As more jurisdictions explore or adopt ranked choice voting, election administrators need access to reliable tools that have been vetted at the state level.

I support rank choice voting because multiple candidates will find common ground on the important issues, candidates then appeal to a broader electorate, and there is less negative campaigning. Rank choice voting attracts more women candidates, as well. In other jurisdictions, ranked choice voting has resulted in more women representatives.

By supporting HB 1010/SB 236, you are empowering local election administrators with trusted technology, reducing administrative burdens, and reinforcing Maryland's commitment to secure, transparent, and well-run elections. We should continue supporting the election officials who work tirelessly to ensure every Marylander's vote is counted accurately and fairly.

Equip election administrators with the tools they need to succeed! - RCV gives voters the ability to express their preference in elections!

I respectfully urge the Government, Labor, and Elections Committee to give HB1010 full consideration and a favorable report. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Heather Reichardt
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Gaithersburg, MD 20878 (District 15)