

## HB2100-OPPOSED

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Honorable Delegates,

When you attempt to change the Maryland Constitution by promoting taxation without representation by all Marylanders, I feel invisible as a contributing voter. I was a nurse in Maryland for 50 years, serving the needs of hundreds of sick Marylanders, and never once did anyone ask, or I discuss, my voter identification!

This “special” assembly, created to legalize gerrymandering, so it can be placed on the ballot in the 2026 General Election, is both unconstitutional and illegal. It is a direct assault on my freedom of speech, freedom of religion, equal representation and equal protection. I believe the sponsors/supporters of this bill have created an illusion that “one Nation, under God” means only one political party. It does not. On the contrary, it would forever change our Constitution into, for generations to come, a mockery of what our founding fathers intended! George Washington stated “The power under the Constitution will always be in the people. It is entrusted for certain defined purposes, and for a limited period, to representatives of their own choosing; and whenever it is executed contrary to their interest, or not agreeable to their wishes, their servants can and undoubtedly will be recalled.” In summary, President Washington concluded the Constitution of the United States has as “its only keepers, the people” Do not attempt to force people to believe otherwise as you consider the value of their life in Maryland should not be counted when they vote.

Could it be our voices are heard and now feared as voters? I vote. Could it be your political agendas supersede our message? Thomas Jefferson said “On every question of construction (let us) carry ourselves back to the time when the Constitution was adopted, recollect the spirit manifested in debates, and instead of trying what meaning may be squeezed out of the text or invented against it, conform to the probable one in which it was passed” This applies to Maryland’s Constitution as well.

How wrong you would be to deprive “we the people” from learning from the Founders and believing in their vote. We are not invisible. We contribute. We need you to hear us on so many levels.

I oppose HB2100. My vote is precious. Our right to vote and be counted is precious. Without it, no other right is possible or matters. We are called to help each other and protect each other, not protect us *from* each other.

As elected officials and legislators, your duty is to protect our Constitution, not vandalize it or snuff it out! I urge you to reject these efforts to codify the killing of our vote.

Sincere and heartfelt blessings as we celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday of our United States,

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