

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

I urge you to support **HB 1010**, *Election Law - Certification of Election-
Supporting Technology - Regulations, Review, and Evaluation*.

The bill would help ensure the quality and safety of election supporting
technologies that are essential for running smooth elections, such as
election poll books or software used for preparing and reporting voting
results. The need for vigilance is illustrated by recent incidents such as the
election poll book malfunctions in Texas in 2020 or the safety lapses found
in the software code of New Hampshire election poll books in 2023.

Importantly, the bill would ensure the state-level vetting and certification
of all election-supporting technologies, including those needed for
ranked choice voting. This is becoming increasingly important as more
jurisdictions explore or adopt ranked choice voting.

By ensuring safety and quality for election-supporting technologies used
in ranked choice voting, HB 1010 would contribute to important
improvements in our electoral system, as ranked choice voting

- enables voters to express their preferences more completely
- eliminates the “spoiler effect” and thus yields results that better reflect
voter preferences
- encourages more diverse sets of candidates and office holders.

For these reasons, I urge the Government, Labor, and Elections Committee
to give HB 1010 full consideration and a favorable report.

Sincerely,

Tamas Varnai, Silver Spring, MD, 20910