



**TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE GOVERNMENT, LABOR AND ELECTIONS
COMMITTEE**

HB 182 Election Law - Presidential Electors - Selection and Voting

POSITION: Support

BY: Linda Kohn, President

DATE: February 4, 2026

While the League of Women Voters supports the abolition of the electoral college and instead electing the President and Vice President by direct popular vote, until that is achieved, we support HB 182. We believe government should be responsive to the will of the people and ensure that states have a transparent election process that results in sending the proper electors to the electoral college based on a fair counting of all valid votes.

Faithless presidential electors could represent the disenfranchisement of hundreds of thousands of Maryland voters who already cast their ballots for president. They represent a probable, harmful, and potentially calamitous risk to a central institution of our democracy as soon as 2028, and states that fail to take action to guard against it could be subject to an election subversion threat that targets our presidential elections. Maryland law already includes a provision which directs its presidential electors to cast a faithful electoral vote for president and for vice president. What it lacks is any mechanism to ensure that this directive operates effectively, even in the face of circumstances that disqualify an elector.

By passing HB 182 the Maryland General Assembly would be protecting our state's voters and protecting the voice of our state.

We urge a favorable vote on HB 182.