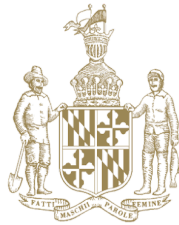


JHEANELLE WILKINS  
Legislative District 20  
Montgomery County

Chair, Ways and Means Committee

Rules and Executive Nominations  
Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates  
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

FEBRUARY 11, 2026

**House Bill 0052- Election Law – Incarcerated Individuals – Voter Hotline and Voting Eligibility  
(Voting Rights for All Act)**

Dear colleagues,

I am pleased to present **House Bill 52- Election Law – Incarcerated Individuals – Voter Hotline and Voting Eligibility (Voting Rights for All Act)**, legislation that ensures the fundamental democratic principle of the right to vote, which should not be denied based on incarceration status.

HB 52 expands voting rights across Maryland by removing incarceration as a barrier to voter eligibility and ensuring that every eligible Marylander has meaningful access to the ballot. The bill also requires the State Board of Elections to establish a toll-free voter hotline for incarcerated individuals to obtain accurate voting information, request election materials, and report violations of their voting rights. This infrastructure is essential to ensuring that the right to vote is not merely theoretical, but accessible and enforceable.

This legislation also directly confronts the racial disparities embedded in our current system. In Maryland, approximately 71% of incarcerated individuals are Black or African American, despite representing only 30% of the state's population. Maintaining incarceration-based disenfranchisement upholds inequity and undermines the legitimacy of our democracy.

To reflect our goals of being a true representative democracy, it is vital that all individuals in the State of Maryland are granted the right to vote, regardless of incarceration status. House Bill 52 will give more Marylanders the right to participate in the democratic process.

For these reasons, I urge the committee to give a **favorable report** for **House Bill 2- Election Law – Incarcerated Individuals – Voter Hotline and Voting Eligibility (Voting Rights for All Act)**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jheanelle Wilkins".

Delegate Jheanelle Wilkins