

Unfavorable Position on SB758 and Constituent Engagement Concerns

Dear Senator Ron Watson,

I am writing as a Maryland constituent to express my opposition to SB758 and to address my concern regarding the lack of response to prior outreach directed to your office.

SB758 expands the required display period for political signage within common ownership communities from 30 to 45 days prior to early voting. This change is being advanced without any demonstrated evidence that the current law is insufficient or that voter engagement is negatively impacted by the existing timeframe. In effect, this bill imposes additional constraints on local governance, overrides community-level decision-making, and increases the duration of political activity in shared residential environments without a clear policy justification.

Further, the designation of this bill as an emergency measure raises additional concern. There is no credible connection between extending sign display timelines and the preservation of public health or safety. This classification appears inappropriate and undermines the integrity of the legislative process.

Separately, I want to address the lack of response to my prior communication. As an elected official, you have a responsibility to engage with and respond to the individuals you represent—particularly when legislation directly impacts their communities. Failure to do so erodes trust and limits meaningful engagement with constituents who are actively participating in policy discussions.

At minimum, I expect:

- Timely acknowledgment of constituent inquiries
- Transparency regarding legislative intent
- Willingness to engage on policy concerns raised by constituents

For these reasons, I oppose SB758 and urge reconsideration of both the substance of this bill and the level of responsiveness to constituent input moving forward.

Respectfully,

Alicia Renee
Maryland Constituent & Special Education Advocate