



**TESTIMONY FOR HB0207**  
**ELECTION LAW – CERTIFICATE OF CANDIDACY FOR CONGRESSIONAL OFFICES**  
**STOCK TRADING ACTIVITIES**

**Bill Sponsor:** Delegate Vogel

**Committee:** House Government, Labor, and Elections

**Organization Submitting:** Maryland Legislative Coalition

**Person Submitting:** Aileen Alex, Cochair

**Position:** **FAVORABLE**

Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB0207 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. We are a network of unpaid citizen advocates—individuals and grassroots groups in every district—representing and supporting more than 30,000 Marylanders.

HB0207 is a simple, common-sense measure that strengthens public trust in our democratic institutions. The bill requires the State Board of Elections to add a checkbox on the candidacy form for U.S. House and Senate candidates so they can affirm whether they—and their spouse—will agree not to trade individual stocks while the candidate is in office.

This bill brings Maryland’s candidates in line with what voters already assume is happening: that candidates will avoid potential conflicts of interest. At a time when trust in government is fragile, HB0207 offers a practical step toward rebuilding confidence.

This legislation also aligns directly with the mission of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. Our work supports citizen activists and helps Marylanders have the information they need to participate meaningfully in their government and elections. Making this selection information available on the State Board of Elections’ website is consistent with the type of information MLC makes available for state legislators. Therefore, HB0207 supports our values and strengthens the integrity of our electoral system.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge a **FAVORABLE** report on HB0207.