

**HB 206:** General Assembly - Membership, Election Timing for State Senators, and Eligibility: Please vote to **SUPPORT** this bill.

Dear Rules & Executive Nominations Committee:

I am writing to strongly urge you to **SUPPORT HB 206**.

Maryland's legislative districts have remained largely unchanged despite significant population growth and shifts, resulting in larger districts and reduced direct representation for residents—particularly in growing suburban and rural areas. Adding seats would allow for more accurate districts that better reflect community interests and improve constituent access to their representatives. Aligning Senate elections to a single cycle would increase voter turnout, simplify the ballot, reduce confusion, and make senators more directly accountable during major election years.

**These reforms modernize our legislative structure, enhance democratic representation**, improve responsiveness, and maintain fiscal responsibility (legislative costs scale proportionally with membership). **Maryland deserves a General Assembly that reflects current population realities and maximizes voter influence.**

For these reasons, I respectfully ask you to **vote in favor of HB 206**.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of this important legislation.

Respectfully,

Trudy Tibbals