

Testimony in support of HB 482
Legislative and Congressional Redistricting and Apportionment
Commission (Fair Districts for Maryland Act)

January 27, 2026

The Honorable Delegate Anne Healey
Chairman, Rules and Executive Nominations Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 361
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Chairman Healey:

I write in support of HB 482 - Legislative and Congressional Redistricting and Apportionment Commission (Fair Districts for Maryland Act).

If the State of Maryland is to undertake congressional redistricting at this time, an independent redistricting commission is critical to ensure integrity and fairness; to ensure that every voice and every vote counts and that all Marylanders have equal representation.

This is the most logical way and equitable way to handle redistricting. To truly represent the will of all Marylanders in the process, we must take politics out of the equation. Political party affiliation or voting history is not (and should never) be a consideration when drawing districts.

Importantly, this legislation would ensure that districts will reflect communities of common interest. If a representative of the people is to be a true advocate for constituents, they must share a common interest.

Our congressional districts must be designed to ensure that rural counties such as the Eastern Shore and other minority constituencies have a voice.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

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