

Firmin, Michelle

From: JACLYN GREGORY <jaclyngregory@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2026 10:21 PM
To: Healey, Anne Delegate; Holmes, Marvin Delegate
Cc: Bagnall, Heather Delegate; Barnes, Ben Delegate; Bartlett, Sandy Delegate; Buckel, Jason Delegate; Charkoudian, Lorig Delegate; Clippinger, Luke Delegate; Cullison, Bonnie Delegate; Davis, Debra Delegate; Feldmark, Jessica Delegate; Ghrist, Jeff Delegate; Guyton, Michele Delegate; Kaiser, Anne Delegate; Kerr, Ken Delegate; Kipke, Nicholas Delegate; Korman, Marc Delegate; Moon, David Delegate; Pippy, Jesse Delegate; Reilly, Teresa Delegate; Shetty, Emily Delegate; Szeliga, Kathy Delegate; Valderrama, Kris Delegate; Wells, Melissa Delegate; Wilkins, Jheanelle Delegate; Wilson, C.T. Delegate
Subject: HB488

Dear Chairwoman Healey, Vice Chair Holmes, and Members of the Rules and Executive Nominations Committee,

I had signed up to testify at last night's hearing on HB 488 and watched the proceedings on Zoom, but I was never called out of the waiting room to be able to speak. Please accept this as my testimony in opposition to HB 488.

As a resident of Cecil County, I am a member of one of the communities that will be disenfranchised if this map is adopted. Delegate Wilson stated early on in the hearing "No matter how powerful we think we are, we are not supposed to override the will of the people." Yet this effort at redistricting and this map does exactly that. It overrides the will of the people. A UMBC poll showed that only 27% of Marylanders believe redistricting should be a priority. Marylanders don't support this, and Marylanders most definitely don't see this as an "emergency" as it has been characterized by the sponsors. Marylanders are certainly facing many emergencies, such as unaffordable energy bills, unaffordable transportation fees, housing costs, and increasing difficulty to be able to afford daily living expenses in Maryland. It is a slap in the face of Marylanders to push this as emergency legislation while real emergencies that Marylanders face are ignored.

Listening to the testimony of redistricting proponents made it obvious that the goal of this map is to completely eliminate Republican representation at the national level, and to effectively disenfranchise the Eastern Shore and a third of Maryland's voters. This effort is not for the people. It is a partisan power grab by state leaders to eliminate opposing views at the national level and to increase partisanship at the state level. To blame other states' actions when the precedent for gerrymandering was established in Maryland years ago is dishonest. Your job is to represent Marylanders- all Marylanders- not use citizens as pawns in a political power grab, and not to use Marylanders as leverage against other states.

The contention of the effort behind the proposed map is that state leaders should fight gerrymandering by doing the very thing they claim to oppose. Vote NO on HB 488, and put your efforts towards resolving the real emergencies Marylanders are facing.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

Kind regards,

Jaclyn Gregory
Elkton, MD
(410)920-0279