MEDIA ADVISORY

Ahead of Key Hearings, Advocates and Lawmakers Urge General Assembly to Advance Maryland Voting Rights Act, Pro-Voter Reforms

Advisory for: Wednesday, February 11, 2026

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Annapolis, MD – Ahead of key committee hearings on major voting rights legislation, a coalition of voting rights organizations, impacted voters, and state lawmakers will host a press conference on **Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 9 a.m. in the House of Delegates** urging swift passage of the Maryland Voting Rights Act and other key voting rights legislation .

Expanding access to the ballot box isn't partisan or abstract, it's essential to addressing the everyday challenges Marylanders currently face, from rising costs to access to quality schools and safe neighborhoods.

The Maryland Voting Rights Act (SB 255/HB 350 and HB 219) and companion pro-democracy legislation matter to Marylanders' lives and futures. These measures will empower Marylanders by ensuring every vote equally counts, make voting more accessible, and root out intimidation and suppression tactics that silence voices.

This press conference comes as Marylanders continue to face federal attacks on their freedom to vote. Advocates say the General Assembly has an obligation to strengthen voter protection and ensure all voices are protected in light of these threats.

WHO:

- **Joanna Antoine,** Everyone Votes MD Coalition

- **Delegate Stephanie Smith**, Maryland Voting Rights Act sponsor (HB 219)

- **Delegate Gregory Wims**, Maryland Voting Rights Act sponsor (HB 350)

- **Impacted Maryland voters**

WHEN: Wednesday, February 11, at 9am ET

WHERE:

Maryland House of Delegates

6 Bladen St.
Room 406
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

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