

February 15, 2018

**Testimony on SB 592 –
Joint Committee on Election Oversight - Establishment
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs**

Position: Favorable

Common Cause Maryland supports SB 592 which would create a joint committee on election oversight which we believe will assist in the Maryland legislatures efforts to improve elections and campaign finance regulations in the state.

We believe that the appointed Board Members at the State and Local levels currently fulfill their duties of oversight over our elections. However, the bill presents an opportunity for the General Assembly to annually study how we can improve access to our elections and improve campaign finance regulation in our state. As technology and innovation continue to rapidly change the landscape of these two policy areas, we believe it is vital that the General Assembly remains focused on ensuring our election and campaign finance systems are in line with our times.

Because SB 592 would increase the legislature's focus on modernizing our campaign systems, Common Cause Maryland asks the committee for a favorable report.