

HOWARD COUNTY CITIZENS Association

Since 1961... The Voice of the People of Howard County

**Date:** 15 July 2024 **Subject:** HCCA Testimony CB46-2024 – Election Fund

Good evening my name is Kristy Mumma from Elkridge and testifying on behalf of the Howard County Citizens Association, HCCA as a Board Member.

The HCCA is in Favor of CB46-2024 the Citizens Election Fund, Certified Candidates. The fact that three of our Council Members have their names as co-sponsors on the Bill speaks highly that Deb Jung, Christina Rigby and Liz Walsh are willing and wanting to work on an enhanced Bill which originally has proven to be extremely beneficial. To see Council Members working together for the potential betterment of improving a system is very encouraging and appreciated. We hope to see much more of this camaraderie in the future. It would undoubtedly be favorable for all concerned parties.

We have some suggested amendments we believe would make the Bill much stronger regarding promoting accountability. They are as follows:

- Refer to page 6, line 9 add the wording shall be returned within 15 calendar days. Failure to comply will result in adhering to Section 10.311 Violations.
- Refer to page 10, lines 26 and 29 add after each line the wording Repayment shall be fully reimbursed no later than 15 calendar days. Failure to comply will result to adhering to Section 10.311 Violations.
- Refer to page 12 after line 5 add (C) the wording Failure to comply with any of the aforementioned restrictions in this Section will automatically negate any participation by an Election Fund Candidate.
- Refer to page 13, line 21 change the word "may" to shall.
- Refer to page 13, line 23 add the wording which is required to be reimbursed no later than 15 calendar days.

We appreciate your consideration in the suggested Amendments. We have confidence that the outcome of your votes will be for Approval especially if you believe in a more equitable Election Fund System to benefit all potential candidates.

Thank you,

Kristy Mumma HCCA Board of Director