

ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT
COMMISSIONERS OF
ST. MARY'S COUNTY



James R. Guy, President
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Tom Jarboe, Commissioner
Todd B. Morgan, Commissioner
John E. O'Connor, Commissioner

February 6, 2018

Delegate Anne R. Kaiser, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
Lowe House Office Building, Room 131
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: **Written Testimony for HB 136 - St. Mary's County - Board of Library Trustees for hearing on February 1, 2018 at 2:00 pm**

Dear Chairman Kaiser:

With 35 Boards and Committees working on behalf of the citizens of our community, the Commissioners of St. Mary's County has maintained a review and appointment process that seeks to find the most qualified and diverse within our community to fill the unique needs of each board. As the elected representatives of our community, the commissioners have always believed these appointments represent the commissioners' obligations and accountability to the public. The many appointments and screening process is something we take very serious.

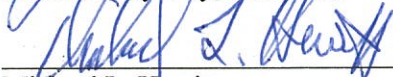
In the process of receiving applications for board and committee appointments, the county commissioners welcome advice and recommendations from not only our citizens, but the various members currently serving on boards. However, we do not believe it to be in the best interest of our county that the commissioners would be unable to reject appointment recommendations from any group or individual, and not be able to make appointments that reflect the greater concerns of our citizens and the welfare of our community at large.

Therefore, it is my opinion that appointments to the St. Mary's County Library Board should be made in the same manner and spirit as those which the county commissioners, elected by the people, use to make all other board and committee appointments. It will always be our position that the elected officials voted in or out by the citizens, are the ones which should be held accountable for the actions of the people's government. This is why we offer our support to the proposed legislation that would make the county commissioners accountable to the citizens for library board appointments as well as all other appointments.

Sincerely,
COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY



James Randy Guy, President




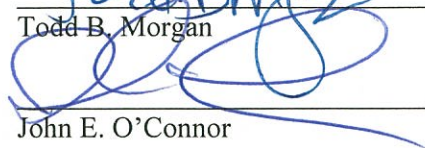
Michael L. Hewitt



Tom Jarboe

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Todd B. Morgan


John E. O'Connor

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Cc: Senator Stephen Waugh
Delegate Deborah Rey
Delegate Gerald Clark
Delegate Matthew Morgan
Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator
David Weiskopf, Acting County Attorney