

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



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

**House Bill 655**  
Local Government – County Commissioner Elections – District Voting  
**OPPOSE**

February 23, 2021

The Honorable Adrienne Jones, Speaker of the House  
Maryland House of Delegates  
H-101, State House  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: **House Bill 655** - Local Government – County Commissioner Elections – District Voting

Dear Madam Speaker:

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County **OPPOSE** House Bill 655 Local Government – County Commissioner Elections – District Voting which was heard on February 9, 2021 in the Ways and Means Committee and received a favorable with amendments report and was heard today on the House Floor.

However, the Commissioners of St. Mary's County would support an amendment that would allow this bill, upon passage, to go to a voter referendum for the people of St. Mary's County to decide and vote on in the 2022 election:

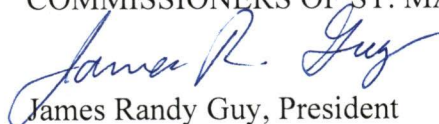
- HB 655 - County Commissioner Elections – District Voting (plurality voting).

In addition, the Commissioners of St. Mary's County also requests that a second referendum question be put to the voters of St. Mary's County in the 2022 election:

- Eliminating election districts so that the elections are held at large.

We **OPPOSE** HB 655 and do not believe this legislation would benefit the citizens of St. Mary's County. Rather, we request amendment to this bill that puts the contents of this bill and the elimination of election districts to referendum for the voters of St. Mary's County to decide.

Sincerely,  
COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY

  
James Randy Guy, President

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The Honorable Adrienne Jones, Speaker of the House  
February 23, 2021

CSMC/AB/sf  
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Cc: Senator Jack Bailey  
Delegate Matthew Morgan  
Delegate Gerald Clark  
Delegate Brian Crosby  
Commissioner Eric Colvin  
Commissioner Michael Hewitt  
Commissioner Todd Morgan  
Commissioner John O'Connor  
Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator  
David Weiskopf, County Attorney