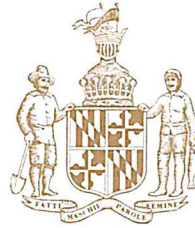


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—  
*Chair*  
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**THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES**  
**ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401**

**Testimony for HB 1**  
**Judiciary Committee**

Good afternoon, Chairman Clippinger, Vice Chair, Moon, and distinguished members of the committee. I am Delegate C.T. Wilson and it's a privilege to be here to present **HB 1- Civil Actions-Child Sexual Abuse-Definition and Statute of Limitations (The Child Victims Act of 2023)**

**Bill Overview:**

This bill alters the definition of "sexual abuse" for purposes relating to civil actions for child sexual abuse to include any act that involves an adult allowing or encouraging a child to engage in certain activities; repealing the statute of limitations in certain civil actions relating to child sexual abuse; repealing a statute of repose for certain civil actions relating to child sexual abuse; providing for the retroactive application of the Act under certain circumstances; etc.

**Bill Outline:**

Five Goals of HB01 (The Child Victims Act): To identify hidden predators in our communities.

1. To disclose the facts of the child sexual abuse epidemic to the public.
2. To arm trusted adults with the information they need to protect children.
3. To shift the cost of abuse from victims to those who caused them harm.
4. Justice for victims who are ready to come forward.

The Child Victims Act of 2023 will:

- **Eliminate the statute of limitations**
- Repeal the "statute of repose".
- Create a permanent window for older claims.
- Eliminate the notice of claims requirement for public entities in child sexual abuse cases.
- Create some limitations on liability to a single claimant for injuries arising from a single incident or occurrence.

**Conclusion:**

This bill will provide access to justice for survivors of child sexual abuse and expose hidden predators.

Thank you for your time and I request a favorable report for **HB 1**.