CHRISTOPHER ERIC BOUCHAT Legislative District 5 Carroll and Frederick Counties

Judiciary Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 321
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3200 · 301-858-3200
800-492-7122 Ext. 3200
Christopher.Bouchat@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES Annapolis, Maryland 21401

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The Honorable Delegate Luke Clippinger Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee 6 Bladen Street, Room 101 Annapolis, MD 21401

House Bill 387

Chair Clippinger, Vice Chair Moon, and members of the House Judiciary Committee:

Please accept this letter of support for <u>House Bill 387</u>, <u>Evidence-Witness Credibility-Forgery Conviction</u>. This comprehensive legislation simply codifies and clarifies pre-existing law by explicitly stating forgery; this ensures that Counsel knows the exact offenses that can be used to impeach a witness's testimony and eliminates the ambiguity of the existing law. Furthermore, this legislation ensures that the integrity of the court is not compromised by false testimony. Legally perjury is no different than forgery in the eyes of the court.

The objective of <u>House Bill 387</u> is to maintain the integrity of the court's judgment by the testimony given.

For these reasons, I urge the committee to give a favorable report on House Bill 387.

Sincerely,

Delegate Christopher Eric Bouchat