

## Testimony for HB0720

Please vote for HB0720.

I would think that everyone involved in law enforcement should take an oath to follow the US and Maryland Constitutions per Article I, § 9.

I swear/affirm to support the U.S. Constitution; be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of Maryland and support its Constitution and laws; and, to the best of one's skill and judgment, diligently and faithfully, without partiality or prejudice, execute the respective office, according to the Constitution and laws of the State

The current oath per §2-104 (b), does not seem sufficient by itself, but could be taken in addition to the constitutional oath.

§2-104.

(a) Every auditor, clerk, sheriff, constable, commissioner, surveyor, or other officer before he assumes the duties of his office, shall take and sign the oath or affirmation prescribed by the Constitution.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, every deputy clerk or sheriff shall take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation: "I, A.B., do swear (or affirm) that I will not for lucre or malice delay any person applying to me for any business belonging to the office I officiate in, and that I will not directly or indirectly ask, take, exact, demand, or receive from or charge to any such person to my own use any fee or reward whatsoever for any services I may do as deputy of the said office, and that in making out the office fees I will not wittingly or willingly charge other or higher fees than are allowed by law."

(d) In Montgomery County and Washington County, every deputy clerk or deputy sheriff shall take and sign the oath or affirmation prescribed by Article I, § 9 of the Maryland Constitution.

I believe all the deputy sheriffs in every jurisdiction should be required to uphold the US and State constitutions.

Please vote for HB0720, so that those in Carroll County will be required to take the better oath of office..

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