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TESTIMONY ON SB52 - UNFAVORABLE Juvenile Justice Restoration Act of 2024

I am Camilla Day, a resident of Maryland District 17. I am submitting this testimony AGAINST SB52.

As a parent, proud Maryland resident, and member of Adat Shalom Congregation, I am testifying against the proposed Juvenile Justice "Restoration" Act. My opinion is informed by my Jewish values and belief in respect and fairness for all Marylanders.

There is strong evidence that juveniles are more vulnerable to manipulation under interrogation than adults are, and even to admitting guilt to crimes they did not commit. The famous case of the Central Park Five, resulted in 4 innocents serving 10-15 years for a crime they did not commit. Juvenile vulnerability is also revealed in wrongful convictions revealed via DNA evidence where juveniles were found to be 2-3 times more likely to confess to a crime they did not commit than adults were. This increased vulnerability to manipulation, is why extra care is needed in juvenile interrogations.

To protect our young defendants, Maryland wisely passed **The Interrogation Protection Act** (CIPA) in 2022. Unfortunately, these protections will be lost if the proposed Juvenile Justice "Restoration" Act is passed. SB52 is not an "adjustment"; it will essentially eliminate CIPA! That is why it is so important that this bill is **not passed**.

I respectfully urge this committee to return an unfavorable report for SB52