

March 26,2024

Dr. Carmen Johnson

8313 Telegraph Road

Odenton, MD 21113

Subject: SB 123 - the Second Look Act

Dear Chairman Will Smith and Senator Carter,

Maryland's justice system, plagued by racial bias, leads the nation in incarcerating Black individuals, with 71% of its prison population being Black—more than twice the national average. The urgent need to rectify this disparity calls for the immediate passage of the Maryland Second Look Act. This legislation will foster equity and community healing, allowing for sentence reassessment after 20 years for those who have shown rehabilitation, aligning with evidence that long-term inmates are least likely to reoffend. With a 96% non-recidivism rate among those released on adjusted sentences, the Act promises effective community reintegration and addresses the historical injustices of racially motivated sentencing. I ask that you please vote favorably on SB123 - Second Look Act bill.

Thank you,

***Dr. Carmen Johnson*** - Maryland resident