

Bill Number: HB 1123

Scott D. Shellenberger, State's Attorney for Baltimore County

Opposed

WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF SCOTT D. SHELLENBERGER,
STATE'S ATTORNEY FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY,
IN OPPOSITION OF HOUSE BILL 1123
CORRECTIONAL SERVICES – MEDICAL AND ELDER PAROLE

I write in opposition to House Bill 1123 Geriatric and Medical Parole. While House Bill 1123 and Senate Bill 181 are very similar I prefer Senate Bill 181. I have filed written testimony in the House in favor of Senate Bill 181. It is attached. Senate Bill 181 identifies Geriatric as being 65 or older while House Bill 1123 defines geriatric as 60. Not only does that strike too close to home but I believe for criminals who are in jail at the age of 60, unless they meet the guidelines for medical parole, they must continue to serve their sentence.

If they meet the requirements of medical parole the age does not matter so there is still a way out of incarceration early.

I oppose House Bill 1123 as written. If it were to be identical to Senate Bill 181 I would support.

Bill Number: SB 181
Scott D. Shellenberger, State's Attorney for Baltimore County
Support

WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF SCOTT D. SHELLENBERGER,
STATE'S ATTORNEY FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY,
IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 181
CORRECTIONAL SERVICES – GERIATRIC AND MEDICAL PAROLE

I write in support of Senate Bill 181 Geriatric and Medical Parole.

While I have opposed these types of Bills in the past the current version of Senate Bill 181 has added many more details and requirements than other versions of the Bill. The definitions and details added make this a more workable Statute than in the past.

Additionally Senate Bill 181 recognizes geriatric age as being 65 and not 60 like the House version. While I recently obtained the age of geriatric according to the Senate I in no way was geriatric under the House version for the last 6 years.

I believe Senate Bill 181 is a reasonable solution to finally end the discussions about this topic and we can finally put this topic away.

I urge a favorable report of Senate Bill 181 as written.