

Esteemed members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee: I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill 0655 to establish the Artificial Intelligence Evidence Clinic Pilot Program. This initiative is both timely and essential as we navigate the complexities introduced by artificial intelligence (AI) in our legal system.

We all know that AI technologies have and continue to advance rapidly, which has led to the creation and manipulation of electronic evidence in ways that were previously unimaginable. Deepfakes, AI-generated documents, and other synthetic media pose significant challenges to the authenticity and integrity of evidence presented in our courts. Our judiciary must be equipped with the necessary expertise to assess and interpret such evidence accurately.

Key Benefits this bill will enable:

- **Enhancing Judicial Competence:** The program will ensure that our judges have access to specialized knowledge that will enable them to make informed decisions when confronted with AI-related evidence.
- **Supporting Unrepresented Parties:** The program promotes fairness and equity in our legal proceedings by prioritizing civil cases where parties lack legal representation or access to expert testimony.
- **Fostering Academic Collaboration:** The initiative encourages collaboration with Maryland-based academic institutions to leverage existing expertise and resources to maximize the program's effectiveness.

As AI continues to permeate every aspect of our society, it is imperative that our legal system remains adept at handling the challenges it presents. The Artificial Intelligence Evidence Clinic Pilot Program represents a proactive and strategic approach to safeguarding the integrity of our judicial process in the face of evolving technological advancements.

I urge the committee to give favorable consideration to Senate Bill 0655 and support its passage. Thank you for your attention and dedication to this critical issue.

Respectfully,
Gabriella Waters
Director of Operations
Center for Equitable AI & Machine Learning Systems
Morgan State University