



LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS OF MARYLAND, INC.

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Delegate Luke Clippinger
Chair, Judiciary

Delegate Vanessa Atterbeary
Vice Chair, Judiciary


Dear Chair Clippinger and Members of the Committee:


The Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland has voted to offer support for HB 608- Correctional Services Pre-Release Unit of Women-Requirement to Operate. The purpose of these legislations is to provide women the support and resources they need to transition back into the community.

A large portion of African American women make up the share of women incarcerated in Maryland Correctional Institutional for Women (MCIW). The women deserve an opportunity to be successful in the same manner as incarcerated men in the State of Maryland and should be given fundamental access to the services and resources of a prerelease Unit.

We feel this legislation is important. The state currently operates several dedicated prerelease and minimum security facilities for men, while operating zero for women. For this reason, the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland supports HB 608.

Respectfully,


Darryl Barnes
Chair, Legislative Black Caucus
of Maryland


Edith Patterson
1st Vice Chair, Legislative Black
Caucus of Maryland