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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**Testimony for HB1038
Judiciary Committee**

Good afternoon Mr. Chairman, Madame Vice-Chairwoman and distinguished members of the committee. I am Delegate C.T. Wilson and it's a privilege to be here to present **House Bill 1038 entitled Circuit Court Judges-Retention Election.**

Bill Overview:

Proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution relating to the selection and tenure of circuit court judges; altering the method of filling vacancies in the office of a judge of a circuit court; providing for retention elections following an appointment to fill a vacancy in the office of a judge of a circuit court; providing for a transitional period under which the terms of certain amendments are to become effective; submitting the amendment to the qualified voters of the State for their adoption or rejection; etc.

Bill Outline:

1. Institute that Circuit Court Judges be re-elected by retention elections.

Conclusion: Alter the re-election method of Circuit Court Judges to be merit based through the method of retention elections.

Thank you for your time and I request favorable consideration for this bill. I am open to any questions or concerns you may have about **HB1038.**