

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF BILL #HB1476

**Independent Oversight and Review Board for Health Care of Inmates in State
Correctional Facilities-Establishment**

Date 02/24/2020

From: Caitlyn Raiford

**To: Chairman Luke Clippinger, Madame Chair Vanessa Atterbeary and Members of the House
Judiciary Committee**

Re: SUPPORT FOR BILL#HB1476

I personally support this bill because of my own personal experiences that I had to endure while incarcerated and also the horrific events I was faced with witnessing. During my time of incarceration I have witnessed women lose their pregnancies due to a lack of healthcare or because of the improper medicine given.

I have also personally been neglected in an emergency medical situation for 18 hours consecutively. And once i did finally receive some form of medical attention it was the bare minimum that could possibly be provided. I have personally witnessed many of people lose their lives while being incarcerated. These people committed suicide because of the lack of mental health care provided, some individuals were stabbed and died, and so many more stories. Currently, I have to work through two different therapists to work through my depression, anxiety and also my PTSD from being incarcerated. My time of incarceration still haunts me to this day and I support this bill because no one else should have to endure what I personally went through or what I have witnessed.

Respectfully submitted,

Caitlyn Raiford
Directly Impacted, Maryland Constituent