

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF BILL #HB1476

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

Date: March 3, 2020

From: Melissa Raiford, Anne Arundel County Police Department

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

Re: SUPPORT FOR BILL#HB1476

I support this bill because too often I witness people with mental disabilities who become incarcerated and are never treated for their condition then when they leave incarceration they are in a worse state of mind than what they were in before their incarceration. This causes more problems for the police force and inevitably these individuals become a danger to themselves or others. This is an injustice.

Personally, I have also witnessed the injustice of healthcare within Maryland correctional institutions with my own daughter. She was never treated for any of her conditions medically and she was also advised improper medical suggestions from improper medical professionals. This is not appropriate for ANYONE. This bill needs to be passed. Please consider this bill wholeheartedly.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Raiford
Anne Arundel County Police Department