

## TESTIMONY OF COMPTROLLER PETER FRANCHOT

**Support - House Bill 130 - Commission on LGBTQ Affairs - Established**  
*Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee*  
March 16, 2021

Chairman Pinsky, Vice Chairman Kagan and members of the Committee, it is my pleasure to provide testimony in **support** of **House Bill 130 - Commission on LGBTQ Affairs - Established**. I would like to thank Del. Qi for sponsoring this important legislation, and the Committee for providing the opportunity for my testimony to be heard.

Representation matters and this legislation provides the opportunity to improve the representation and visibility of the LGBTQ community at the highest levels of state government. While LGBTQ rights have taken many steps forward over the last decade, there are still relatively few members of this community in prominent positions throughout the State of Maryland, and this legislation would take an affirmative step towards addressing that disparity.

For the reasons stated above, I respectfully request a **favorable report** for House Bill 130. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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