



Peter Franchot
Comptroller

TESTIMONY OF COMPTROLLER PETER FRANCHOT

Support – Senate Bill 8 – General Provisions – State Song – Repeal

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

March 11, 2021

Chair Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan and members of the Committee, it is my pleasure to provide testimony in **support** of **Senate Bill 8 – General Provisions – State Song – Repeal**. I would like to thank Senator Kagan for sponsoring this legislation.

For too long, Marylanders have had to grapple with our state song “Maryland, My Maryland” and all its outdated and offensive references. From a hostile reference to Lincoln, to talking about “the Northern scum”, this song has long been contradictory to values Marylanders hold. There was only one correct “side” to be on during the Civil War, and I think it’s time our state song recognizes that. I firmly believe the state song should be repealed.

For the reasons stated above, I respectfully request a **favorable report** for Senate Bill 8. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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