

HB1156 Commission on Men and Fatherhood (Fatherhood Protection Act)

Stance: Oppose

Testimony: My name is Adiena C. Britt and I reside in the 45th Legislative District of Baltimore City. I am writing to offer my opposition to HB1156. Though this piece of legislation has an innocuous name assigned to it, after reading the bill's contents; it insinuates a certain level of victimhood being had by men in our state. I hate to break it to you but MEN ARE NOT OPPRESSED, NOR VICTIMIZED IN OUR SOCIETY. Not the type of men this bill was written for anyway. Not the men that will sit on this commission. The laws of this country and state were originally written by and for men, White Men. In ensuing years, more laws were written to keep this White Supremacy intact by criminalizing minority men and women of all types. There are laws STILL being written to criminalize women for having and taking ownership of their own bodies. MEN are NOT victims. In fact, laws need to be submitted and voted upon on a yearly basis all across this country to combat the attack on minorities and women that occur at the hands of powerful men. Where is the state sponsored "Commission on Women- (Womanhood Protection Act)"? Where is the state sponsored "Commission on Black and Latino Men- (Protection Against False Imprisonment and Brutality)"? I can come up with a plethora of these that you have failed to represent in this piece of legislation.

This legislation is a veiled attempt to place a death grip on the male domination on our society, and it's not even thinly veiled. White Men ARE NOT VICTIMS in our society. Men can walk away from any situation at any time, and sometimes choose to because they lack the courage to take responsibility for their actions, and now want to become angry because family law normally takes the woman's side? Where is it in this legislation that your "Commission" will examine the multitude of Black and Brown Men who are actually oppressed by Nixon and Reagan Era laws citing some "War on Drugs" that are disproportionately used against Black and Brown men? Are you willing to empty the beds in the For Profit, Privately run Prison system for these men who are actually victimized by the manufactured "crimes" that are designed to put them in there in the first place? Instead of writing this pity party commission into existence, perhaps you should write a bill that repeals a bunch of the laws actually oppressing Minority Men and demonizing Womanhood and do EVERYBODY a favor, instead of trying to form a Good Ole Boys' Commission declaring some perceived victimhood. Otherwise, this is a waste of time and potential resources that should be utilized fighting for actual equality, and not perceived injustices that really just don't exist. At least not for whom this bill is actually written for. You all need to be honest with yourselves and look in the mirror. White Men are not, have not been, and will never be oppressed or victimized in this Country. Get over yourselves and write bills that actually help the Men and Women who are actually being victimized due to laws of oppression. Do something about that. Form a Commission on that. This shouldn't pass first reader, because reading between the lines is all you need to do to see this for what it really is. A death grip on White Male Supremacy that they feel they are losing...

Thank you.

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