

Testimony SUPPORTING SB0276

Ethan Hasiuk on behalf of [Hinenu: The Baltimore Justice Shtiebl](#)

Good afternoon. I am Ethan Hasiuk, a resident of Baltimore City District 43, and I am a strong supporter of SB276. I am here representing my synagogue, Hinenu, which has more than 200 members and meets across the street from the Hopkins Homewood Campus.

We are a Jewish community that includes Black people and people of color, queer and trans people, and disabled folks. Just over two weeks ago, we watched as a white nationalist mob wrought havoc at the United States Capitol while police stood by. Not only do we believe that police do not keep us safe in moments of crisis, but we fear for our most marginalized members being the targets of police violence. This is why we have consistently rejected offers of police “protection” and instead sought safety and solidarity through relationships with our interfaith neighbors.

We believe that everyone in Baltimore deserves safety from all forms of violence. We see the Hopkins Police Department not as a public safety effort, but rather an attempt to build even higher walls around a powerful institution. We have no interest in being part of this fortress, for it would endanger us and alienate us from the neighbors we love and who keep us safe. Thank you.