Dear Delegate Luke Clippinger, Chair of Judiciary Committee,

My name is Mary Grace Bowring, I am a voting resident of District 46 and an MD-PhD student at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

I am writing to you in support of HB0151.

Will you join the community you have been elected to serve, and support and vote for HB0151?

The Law Enforcement Officer's Bill of Rights has been used to shield officers, to obstruct accountability, and to protect those who cause harm to families, communities, and individuals - who use their force to disrupt lives, or to kill -- rather than to protect civilians who are subject to the unchecked treatment of said officers. Maryland is where LEOBR was first set forth, it must also be where it ends. We must have a full repeal of LEOBR.

Simply reforming the bill is not adequate. I urge you to view the video honoring Tyrone West on the 7th anniversary of his murder by Baltimore police. None of the officers who took Tyrone West's life have been held accountable, even as his family, friends, and concerned citizens have spent seven years tirelessly fighting for justice while grieving his loss. This year policing and accountability have been a hot-button item. It should be clearer than ever that the only way accountability of police to those they serve is possible is to fully repeal LEOBR, and to restore control of BPD into the hands of Baltimore City residents.

Will you stand with your constituents and support HB0151?

I will consider your actions when I vote again. We look forward to publicly discussing your response.

Thank you for your time,

Mary Grace Bowring, MPH

*Pronouns: she/her/hers* 

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