

February 9, 2021

## Testimony on House Bill 670 Police Reform and Accountability Act of 2021 House Judiciary Committee

## **Position: Favorable**

Maryland Nonprofits is a statewide association of 1200 nonprofit organizations and institutions. We strongly urge you to support House Bill 670 on police reform and accountability.

Moving forward it is critical that our public policies address the crises that face us in this and other long-neglected areas, to advance the goals of equity and social justice, so that all Marylanders can share the benefits of living safely in our communities.

Incidents of unfairness and brutality in justice and law enforcement over the past year have engendered outrage and focused attention nationally and in Maryland on the racism and inequity at their source. The reforms proposed in House Bill 670 are based on the study and recommendations of the House Workgroup to Address Police Reform and Accountability in Maryland.

This is the time to redress the continuing effects of systemic racism, economic unfairness, and other social inequities remains a challenge for the state and the nation.

We urge you to give House Bill 670 a favorable report.

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