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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony for HB 11
Ways and Means Committee

Good Afternoon Madame Chair, Mr. Vice – Chair, and esteemed members of the committee
I am Delegate C.T Wilson and it’s a privilege to be here to present:

**House Bill 11 entitled: Public Schools – African American History – Development of
Content Standards and Implementation**

Bill Overview:

Requiring the State Board of Education, by December 1, 2021, to develop content standards for African American history to be included in certain State standards for social studies; requiring the content standards to include certain topics; requiring each county board of education to develop and implement certain age – appropriate curriculum guides for African American history subject to certain content standards; requiring each public school in the State, by the 2022 – 2023 school year, to implement an African American history curriculum

Outline:

1. The State Board must develop content standards for African American History to be included in the State standards and framework of social studies
2. The content of standards must include topics such as: the history of African people before political conflict that led to slavery; the contributions of African Americans to society; slavery and abolition; Jim Crow laws; the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre; Social injustice and police brutality; and any additional topics determined to be relevant, etc.
3. Each County Board shall develop and implement an age – appropriate curriculum guides for African American History subject to the content standards which will begin at the 2022 – 2023 school year, in which all public schools in the state shall include African American History in the Social Studies curriculum.

Conclusion: In conclusion, this bill aims to develop and implement African American history standards into all public-school curriculum in Maryland. This will allow students to learn African American history more in depth and how African Americans have helped shape and build America up to what it is today. The State Board of Education may adopt regulations to implement these requirements adapting to age-appropriate curriculums.

Thank you for your time and I request a favorable report for **HB 11**. I am open to any questions or concerns that you may have regarding this bill.