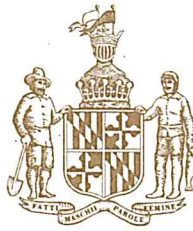


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Pensions

Public Safety, Transportation, and
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TESTIMONY - SENATE BILL 91

***BUSINESS REGULATION – INNKEEPERS – RECORDS AND
HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS TRAINING***

FINANCE COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 3, 2022

Chair Kelley, Vice Chair Feldman, and Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

Senate Bill 91 is a straight-forward piece of legislation designed to combat human trafficking in our communities and to equip hotel employees with the information necessary to recognize the signs of this crime.

This bill would require the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services (GOCPYVS) and the Maryland Department of Labor to develop an education training program offering guidance to employees of hotels on ways to recognize the signs associated with human trafficking. Additionally, and in an effort to ensure that authorities would have the tools necessary to track perpetrators of human trafficking related crimes, the bill would require innkeepers to maintain a computerized recordkeeping system of all guest receipts for a minimum of six months.

As someone who spent the majority of his professional career in law enforcement, and as someone who personally worked to stop these types of crimes as Prince George's County Sheriff, I am confident that this legislation will provide a means to protect some of those victimized by this hidden and heinous crime in our communities.

For the reasons listed above, I ask for a favorable report of Senate Bill 91.