

SB 97 Testimony Senator Beidle20220201_14052313.p

Uploaded by: Pamela Beidle

Position: FAV

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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 3, 2022

SB 97

Clerks of the Circuit Courts – Bonds, Licenses, Oaths, and Commissions

Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee;

I appreciate the opportunity to present to you SB 97, Clerks of the Circuit Courts – Bonds, Licenses, Oaths, and Commissions. SB97 is a simple bill updating the Courts and Judicial Proceeding Article to reflect today's technology and practices, some of which have been outdated for 30 years or more.

I have requested an amendment to delete two section at the request of the Clerks.

I look forward to a favorable report on SB 97.

Testimony SB0097 with amendments Hager.pdf

Uploaded by: Katherine Hager

Position: FWA

SB0097 Clerks of the Circuit Courts – Bonds, Licenses, Oaths, and Commissions
Judicial Proceedings Committee – February 3, 2022
Sponsor: Senator Pamela Beidle
Position: Favorable with Amendments

Testimony of Katherine Hager, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Queen Anne’s County

Thank you, Chairman Smith, and members of the committee for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 97 with the amendments that have been mentioned. For the record, my name is Katherine Hager, Clerk of the Circuit Court for Queen Anne’s County, and a past President of the Maryland Circuit Court Clerks’ Association. My testimony today is on behalf of the Maryland Circuit Court Clerks’ Association, which represents the elected Clerks of the Circuit Court in Maryland.

As my colleague has mentioned, our Clerks’ Association supports SB 97 with the amendments and my testimony today was going to be about Courts & Judicial Proceedings sections §2-211 and §2-212 as it relates to the delivery of civil commissions and oaths. However, we have asked Senator Beidle to remove our proposed changes in those two sections at this time. We have a great working relationship with the Secretary of State’s office and after consulting with the Secretary of State’s office on these two sections, we would like time to further clarify definitions and the business processes as we work towards ensuring it meets the needs of both the Governor appointees and other public officers with regards to delivering the commissions, oaths, and reporting processes.

Our Association hopes you will look favorably on the changes proposed in SB 97 with the amendments. And we would like to thank Senator Beidle for sponsoring this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Testimony SB0097 Poyer.pdf

Uploaded by: Scott Poyer

Position: FWA

SB0097 Clerks of the Circuit Courts – Bonds, Licenses, Oaths, and Commissions
Judicial Proceedings Committee – February 3, 2022
Sponsor: Senator Pamela Beidle
Position: Favorable with Amendments

Testimony of Scott Poyer, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Anne Arundel County

Thank you, Chairman Smith and members of the committee for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 97. For the record, my name is Scott Poyer, Clerk of the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County. My testimony today is on behalf of the Maryland Circuit Court Clerks' Association, which represents the elected Clerks of the Circuit Court in Maryland.

Our Clerk's Association supports SB 97 because these sections of the Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article need to be updated to reflect current technology and state of practice, specifically:

The proposed changes in §2-106, remove the requirement that Clerks of the Circuit Court obtain separate bonds. This is based on an opinion from the Attorney General indicating that the Clerks of the Circuit Court are covered by a blanket bond that has been issued by the Insurance Division of the State Treasurer for many years.

The proposed changes in §2-208, amend the requirement that the Clerks obtain a sufficient number of blank paper business licenses each year. This change is because pre-printed blank paper licenses are no longer required. Licenses have been printed via computer for approximately the last 30 years.

The proposed changes in §2-210, amend the requirement to account for pre-printed blank paper licenses because blank paper licenses are no longer issued and accounted for by the Comptroller. The process was computerized approximately 30 years ago.

My colleague will talk about sections 2-211 and 2-212.

Our Association hopes you will look favorably on the changes proposed in SB 97. And we would like to thank Senator Beidle for sponsoring this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.