

Bill Number: HB 607

**Scott D. Shellenberger, State's Attorney for Baltimore County
Opposed**

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF SCOTT D. SHELLENBERGER,
STATE'S ATTORNEY FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY,
IN OPPOSITION TO HOUSE BILL 607
GRANDY JURY – TRANSCRIPTION OF TESTIMONY**

I write in opposition to House Bill 607 that would require the transcription of all Grad Jury proceedings. I oppose this bill because it is an unfounded mandate that will cost the Baltimore County State's Attorney's office thousands of dollars annually.

In a typical year, Baltimore County usually indicted 3,000 felonies. Our Grand Jury meets one time per week sometimes more. A typical Grand Jury meeting lasts four and a half hours. A stenographer typically charges \$4.50 per page. I have one example of a witness we brought to Grand Jury and we ordered a stenographer to be present and that one transcript cost my office \$389.00. While that is a bit high for an average case, still four and a half hours for 3,000 cases times \$4.50 per page times 52 weeks come out to a lot of money. This cost will have to be paid by my office and we do not have the funding.

I urge an unfavorable report.