

## **Testimony in support of House Bill HB0968 - William Zwart.**

Good afternoon, Honorable Chair and members of the committee,

I urge you to vote against this bill, as it represents a gross underrepresentation of oppressed groups in Maryland to the point of it being almost discriminatory.

Furthermore, there are inadequate safeguards in place to prevent the commission from abusing their power and becoming perpetrators of hate crimes themselves, as has been seen in the past.

For this reason, I urge you to vote against HB1066, or amend it so that the biases and prejudices of the members may be checked, and every group regardless of majority or minority is represented equally.

This bill will do more damage than good, and may even cause hate crimes due to its flaws.

Thank you for your time.