

HGO Staff #4

From: Firmin, Michelle
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 4:10 PM
To: HGO Staff #4; HGO User #2
Subject: FW: UNFAVorable testimony HB0446 // Fw: Invitation for Zoom Meeting - HB0446 - Indigenous Peoples' Day - Rule of Interpretation and Replacement of Columbus Day

Please upload as late testimony.

Michelle Firmin, MSW

Committee Secretary
Health and Government Operations Committee

Phone: 301.858.3542
Mobile: 202.870.8604
Email: michelle.firmin@mlis.state.md.us

241 House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

From: Vince McAvoy <vince.mcavoy@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 4:09 PM
To: Pena-Melnyk, Joseline Delegate <Joseline.Pena.Melnyk@house.state.md.us>; Cullison, Bonnie Delegate <Bonnie.Cullison@house.state.md.us>
Cc: Alston, Tiffany Delegate <Tiffany.Alston@house.state.md.us>; Bagnall, Heather Delegate <Heather.Bagnall@house.state.md.us>; Bhandari, Harry Delegate <Harry.Bhandari@house.state.md.us>; Chisholm, Brian Delegate <Brian.Chisholm@house.state.md.us>; Guzzone, Pam Delegate <Pam.Guzzone@house.state.md.us>; Hutchinson, Tom Delegate <Tom.Hutchinson@house.state.md.us>; Johnson, Steve Delegate <Steve.Johnson@house.state.md.us>; Kaiser, Anne Delegate <Anne.Kaiser@house.state.md.us>; Kipke, Nicholas Delegate <Nicholaus.Kipke@house.state.md.us>; Lewis, Robbyn Delegate <Robbyn.Lewis@house.state.md.us>; Lopez, Lesley Delegate <Lesley.Lopez@house.state.md.us>; Martinez, Ashanti Delegate <Ashanti.Martinez@house.state.md.us>; Morgan, Matt Delegate <Matt.Morgan@house.state.md.us>; Reilly, Teresa Delegate <Teresa.Reilly@house.state.md.us>; Rosenberg, Samuel Delegate <Samuel.Rosenberg@house.state.md.us>; Szeliga, Kathy Delegate <Kathy.Szeliga@house.state.md.us>; Taveras, Deni Delegate <Deni.Taveras@house.state.md.us>; White, Jennifer Delegate <Jennifer.White@house.state.md.us>; Hill, Terri Delegate <Terri.Hill@house.state.md.us>; Kerr, Ken Delegate <Ken.Kerr@house.state.md.us>; Woods, Jamila Delegate <Jamila.Woods@house.state.md.us>; Firmin, Michelle <Michelle.Firmin@mlis.state.md.us>
Subject: UNFAVorable testimony HB0446 // Fw: Invitation for Zoom Meeting - HB0446 - Indigenous Peoples' Day - Rule of Interpretation and Replacement of Columbus Day

Seeing changes to the HGO schedule today, I checked in with the HGO office for the bill order. I was told the order was as seen online.

Then the bills were started late and then bill order seemed to go with an *ad hoc* order.

Though I rushed to set up my laptop once I heard the bill was being heard and did get logged in to Zoom, I was not let in to testify. Therefore, I will present this as testimony for each of you regarding
HB0446 - Indigenous Peoples' Day -

Rule of Interpretation and Replacement of Columbus Day

Dear Delegates,

Thank you for reading this testimony.

As per previous years, this bill, HB0446, is presented without context and without historical fact.

As in previous years, I trust that this bill honors other stakeholders who are averse to disrespecting Italian-Americans and our national holiday.

Columbus did not "literally start colonialism here in America" as Delegate Amprey stated during his talk of HB0446..

Some of the "harm & trauma caused by colonization" include the good delegate's impressive legal career. And though Del. Amprey didn't note these 2 tribes during his listing of Indian tribes, it is notable to understand how tribes treated Europeans who aimed to share Christ's truth and end Indigenous Peoples' cannibalism, torture and child sacrifice.

That is, violence and harshness of life were endemic in what we call the Americas.

Please note these 8 missionaries and their gruesome deaths after giving away all to help others to salvation.

"On March 16, 1649, Father Brebeuf and his Jesuit colleague Father Gabriel Lalemant were captured, severely tortured and murdered by marauding Iroquois. Their skin was cut off, hot irons were placed on their bodies and scalding water, mocking baptism, was poured over them. Kept alive for additional torture they were eventually tomahawked to death one day apart. Father Brebeuf is said to have suffered with such bravery that after killing him the Indians drank his blood and ate parts of his body seeking to acquire his courage. Father Lalemant followed Brebeuf into the splendor of God's kingdom on March 17."

<https://www.simplycatholic.com/who-are-the-north-american-martyrs/>

Christopher Columbus was a great man. His exploration changed the course of our world and there are a lot of false narratives around Christopher Columbus.

"Misinformation about Christopher Columbus abounds," said former state senator John Pica, the chairman of the Columbus Day Commemoration & Italian Heritage Festival, said in a statement. "So much of the anti-Columbus rhetoric has its roots in an aggressive campaign .. It is a travesty that similar campaigns of misinformation thrives today, now under the guise of social justice."

You do not heal by targeting another historic minority. I feel that you cannot use discrimination and prejudice to fight discrimination and prejudice.

When this bill was last printed, the disrespect shown to Sen. Pica and his 2 co-testifiers in the Senate adversely colored this bill.

That was done even as both (now) retired lawmakers Senator Pica & Susan Krebs offered overly generous & ill-advised amendments.

I reference my prior testimony and adopt to this bill's testimony. It discusses much of prior stakeholders' testimonies/input.

<https://mgahouse.maryland.gov/mga/play/6be4d5fe-1149-467b-805f-d6c036f7ec25?catalog/03e481c7-8a42-4438-a7da-93ff74bdaa4c&playfrom=2168000>

The bill was less confrontational today than last time; but in essence, HB0446 is White Replacementism.

I urge an UNFavorable report on HB0446.

humbly

~vince

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "no-reply@mlis.state.md.us" <no-reply@mlis.state.md.us>

To: "vince.mcavoy@yahoo.com" <vince.mcavoy@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 at 07:27:01 PM EDT

Subject: Invitation for Zoom Meeting - HB0446 - Indigenous Peoples" Day - Rule of Interpretation and Replacement of Columbus Day

Please click the Zoom link below to access the committee meeting:

Committee: Health and Government Operations Committee

Date/Time: 3/15/2023 1:00:00 PM

Item: HB0446 - Indigenous Peoples" Day - Rule of Interpretation and Replacement of Columbus Day

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/81385483882>

Please review the Committee Witness Guidelines for the committee you will be testifying for.