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Legislative District 44
Baltimore County

Judicial Proceedings Committee

Executive Nominations Committee

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Administrative, Executive, and Legislative Review

Children, Youth, and Families

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Testimony Regarding SB 478

Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission –
Reporting and Sunset Extension

Before the Health and Government Operations Committee

March 22, 2023

Good afternoon Chair Pena-Melnyk, and Committee Members,

In 2019 the Maryland General Assembly established the Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission (MLTRC) to research cases of racially motivated lynchings and to hold public meetings and regional hearings to document and reconcile each.

The first task assigned to the MLTRC was to submit an interim report, which occurred in September 2020. ¹

This Committee heard the testimony related to this Senate crossfile, of House Bill 339. The Senate passed SB 478, on a vote of 46-0 (unanimously).

Senate Bill 478 will extend the MLTRC for two years to give it the time necessary to complete its work.

I ask for a favorable report of Senate Bill 478.

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¹ Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission. <u>Interim Report</u>. September 21, 2020, 3.