

January 23, 2023  
1900 county rd apt 203  
District Height, MD 20747

**Oral and Written Testimony of B. Bianca Mills**  
**In favor of: S.B.43/H.B.133,**

**Dear Senator Rosapepe and Delegate Moon,**

**My name is B. Bianca Mills. I am a resident of Pg County, Maryland, I am a family member first and Community Outreach Director of Life After Release secondly), We are an organization that observes and documents information from bail hearings in order to hold officials accountable for injustices in the court system. I am writing in support of S.B. 43/H.B.133. I support this bill because it is highly important that the court keep this access available. Because it totally made a difference in my son's life 2yrs ago when my family from out of town and suffering from covid couldn't get out to support this young man, so having remote access was the best thing they came up with. If not for the access 67 community members wouldn't have been able to show up on zoom all at once due to the pandemic in person wasn't available cause numbers were so high. community members and court watchers from all over us were able to join I truly know it made a difference in my son's outcome.**

**This bill is very important because allowing more people to observe court is the first step to fixing problems like these, and the fact that these issues predominantly affect Black and Brown people is unjust. Remote access to courts is vital to the community because transportation costs are rising, and many people are busy with jobs and other circumstances, yet everyone still has a right to open and public courts. I believe that legislators should support this bill because it will allow for more equality and transparency in the court system, By continuing to allow remote access to courts, people of all economic backgrounds will be able to attend court hearings. In addition, it makes it easier for family members and friends to attend their loved one's hearing, for the same reasons mentioned above. I support S.B.43/H.B.133, and I hope the Judiciary Committee votes favorably.**

**Thank you for your time, B Bianca Mills**  
**240-801-1527**  
**bicana@lifeafterrelease.org**