SB0005: Hate Crimes – Civil Remedy

My name is Ayo H. Kimathi. I am a 49-year-old PG County resident. I oppose Senate Bill 5 on the grounds that it is bordering dangerously upon sedition.

- **Sedition** is overt conduct, such as speech and organization, that tends toward rebellion against the established order. Sedition often includes subversion of a constitution and incitement of discontent toward, or insurrection against, established authority. Sedition may include any commotion, though not aimed at direct and open violence against the laws. Because sedition is overt, it is typically not considered a subversive act, and the overt acts that may be prosecutable under sedition laws vary from one legal code to another.

I have read SB0005 and listened to the testimony surrounding similar bills that carry the same general tone. These bills are designed to protect Jews from criticism from American citizens who see Jews as the primary promoters of LGBT, pedophilia, censorship, election manipulation, perversion in schools, bioweapon terrorism and other ills facing the Republic. These are some of the 2023 bills being considered in Maryland (MD):

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HB1075 (SB785) - Office of Domestic Terrorism Response
HB1243 (SB840) - Protecting Against Hate Crimes Grant Fund: Establishment
HB1242 (SB841) - Student Field Trips - Funding
HB1244 (SB842) - Maryland Holocaust Remembrance Day
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HB0013 (SB005) - Hate Crimes – Civil Remedy

All of these bills are designed to create a special level of protection for Jews that place them in a position above American citizens. Throughout the hearings, the authors of the bills and the people they chose to testify repeatedly reminded the legislators that "anti-Semitic" flyers were passed around in MD cities. They mentioned any number of Jewish organizations and non-profits who stand to benefit legally and financially from these bills. It became clear to some listening, as stated in their own testimony, that these bills are designed to protect Jews, giving little to no consideration of the impact they will have on other Americans or the fabric of the Constitution of the United States of America (USA).

Never once did I see where they showed an example of the literature that was passed out in MD. I have personally seen many provocative flyers about Jewish involvement in things like the Transatlantic slave trade, 2nd Amendment cancellation, control and ownership of media, COVID-19, etc... At a glance I was intrigued. I took a few of the flyers and began to do my own research and found that everything that was printed on the flyers was true.

The fact that these pieces of literature boldly identify Jews as being highly influential in many aspects of American life and the socio-political direction the country is headed is initially a bit shocking to the system. However, my closer examination of the literature found them to be unadulterated facts easily confirmed by basic research on Government websites. This is not the basis for a hate crime. This is someone sharing facts that Jews find to be uncomfortable.

Every single hearing I watched and/or testified in from the bills listed above have a repeating base narrative. Essentially, "People are passing out flyers about Jews that we don't like." In response, instead of challenging the narratives, the Jews in MD chose to draft bills that essentially say, "We want people who criticize Jews prosecuted. We want them to pay us money. We want the state to fund us in stopping criticism of Jews. We want the state to put us in a position to designate any criticism of Jews as a hate crime that sends people to jail and/or enables Jews to sue them into poverty. We want special rules for Jews that Jews can enforce in MD."

SB0005 seeks to strip American citizens of their 1st Amendment right to free speech. Under the guise of a "hate crime" bill, where testimony showed Black people and police officers are offered no specific protection, Jews want to make any criticism of their behavior in America a crime. It doesn't matter whether or not the criticism is **TRUE**. It doesn't even matter if there is only factual information with no analysis nor criticism. Even sharing factual information about Jews they find unfavorable is grounds for them to classify people as "anti-Semitic" and thus create the basis for a hate crime.

This bill, as well as the others listed above, is un-American and unconstitutional. It flies directly in the face of the US Constitution and comes dangerously close to meeting the definition of sedition. There are plenty of laws on the books to enforce harassment, slander, threat, intimidation, and violence against US citizens. There is no need for any laws giving Jews superior legal positioning and special legal protection in the United States of America. This is not and should not become Western Israel.

In the interest of the preservation of the US Constitution which is the foundation for law and order in the Republic, vote down SB0005 and all corresponding bills.

Thank you,

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