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Health and Government
Operations Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 21, 2024

**Oral Testimony in Support of House Bill 996
Consumer Protection - Consumer Council - Name Change**

Good afternoon Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Klausmeier, and members of the Finance Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to present HB 996 for your consideration.

This bill would change the name of the Consumer Council to the Consumer Protection Commission in the Division of Consumer Protection in the Office of the Attorney General. As such, the nine members who are appointed to serve would be considered Commissioners. The request to change the name was discussed at previous Consumer Council meetings. As such, the Council and Office of the Attorney General is aware and in support of the name change.

The Consumer Council is responsible for advising the Division of Consumer Protection and serves as a voice for consumers, businesses, and the greater public. Given the important work that they do, changing the name will better enable them to communicate, educate, and engage Marylanders about the work they do and be seen as a resource.

In the House Economic Matters Committee, the Committee voted HB 996 favorable with amendment unanimously. On third reading in the House, this bill was voted favorable 135-1.

I respectfully request a **FAVORABLE** report.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. White Holland".

Delegate Jennifer White Holland