



**TESTIMONY FOR HB0927**  
**Juvenile Law – Expedited Pretrial Status Hearing**

**Bill Sponsor:** Delegate Attar

**Committee:** Judiciary

**Organization Submitting:** Maryland Legislative Coalition

**Person Submitting:** Cecilia Plante, co-chair

**Position:** FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in strong support of HB0927 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

This bill, if enacted, would require a Magistrate to hold a hearing to determine a child's pretrial status within 24 hours after a child is charged with possession of a firearm or unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

Our members appreciate that there should be urgency in the criminal justice system in determining what will happen to a child that is charged with a crime. Anything that avoids the child and their family sitting in limbo is an important step in ensuring that the system is working properly.

We strongly support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.