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Jessup Correctional Institution  
P.O. Box 534  
Jessup, MD 20794

To the Maryland General Assembly Judicial Proceedings Committee  
Att. Favor - Correctional Overboardman Bill #

I am 55 yrs old resident at (JCI) from the Nations Capitol & MD  
DC has held me for 30 yrs+. Am in complete support of the bill.

Challenges around this Institution are (inmate) neglected health  
treatment. 2-11-03, This, (JCI) played its role w/ having me transferred to  
Correctional DC per se. Intestals (Correctional) Complaint, 1-8-06, I was  
attacked and needed a major head surgery on my skull w/ a steel plate  
on my head. 4-17-06, I came back to MD JCI SuperMax on East Madison  
Street. Haven't received the leg surgery on my left or check teeth being  
refused of an Nova Bridge.

Since my 8-12-22 arrival, I see a many inmates in f-bldg  
where I'm placed w/ walk rollers; where walk better than me!!!  
Also, w/ single-cells! My adventure is on my medical file! An  
physical practitioner Patient came working here & ordered me one  
during 2023 Month of Ramadan. To this day, I remain in f-bldg  
bottom bunk of a cage & navigating my way through daily madness.

10-15-23, My daughter William Logan & 1<sup>st</sup> niece Hilda Roberts were  
harassed walking through the METAL DETECTORS w/ these African  
to flip

assumption going wrong. After Smith threats like (A could, if A wants)  
they allowed to come see me, waiting 2:15 minutes arriving  
of (JCE) - I await your ASSISTANCE.

Independent oversight can resolve these ISSUES better they have  
wait. Eliminating this lack of RESPONSIBILITY + ACCOUNTABILITY  
of reviewing of a Foreman's matters by the department of correction  
itself.

I ask you all to vote favorable in support of the (Constitutional)  
Ombudsmen Bill.

Thank You ——— PEACE BE UPON YOU

David Berry # 1410523  
Jessup Correctional Institution  
Jessup, Md. 20794



To: Maryland Judicial Proceedings Committee & House Judiciary Committee

Re: Correctional Ombudsman SB0134/HB0297

January 2024

I am a Maryland resident and plan to move to Baltimore once I am released from DOC. I am currently housed at the Jessup Correctional Institution. I support a favorable vote concerning the Correctional Ombudsman Bill. The reason for a need for a Correctional Ombudsman is simple. There need to be a check and balance within the Department of Corrections. It does not make to sense to have the Department of Corrections police itself when the Department is actually the problem. I do not believe that anyone on the honorable House and Judiciary Committees have direct connection with the Department of Corrections and the prisons within its infrastructure that is a conflict of interests. However, that is not the case with the Department of Corrections. I SUPPORT A FAVORABLE VOTE FOR THE CORRECTIONAL OMBUDSMAN.

Medical, Double Celling and Drugs: The medical staff is constantly changing. Consequently, when it comes to diagnosis, incarcerated persons get several opinions—each differing from the other. I need surgery on my left foot, big toe area and I have problems with my right shoulder. The medical department would rather keep me pumped up with medicine rather than fix the problem. Because I am an incarcerated person, I am not treated in a way that will fix the medical issues. To the contrary, the problem is prolonged. The Department of Corrections also forces incompatible incarcerated persons into cells with each other, thus creating serious problems that result in avoidable assaults and even murder. In the past 20 years, cell-buddy related deaths have risen. Many years ago, the Department of Corrections stopped incarcerated person from kissing their family and taking pictures in the visiting room. The reason for the prohibition was to prevent the flow of contraband into the institution. However, since the policy was implemented, drug related overdoses and deaths have risen considerably. In addition, during the COVID pandemic when all in-person contact with visitors was prohibited, overdoses skyrocketed. Incarcerated persons are always to blame for the drug epidemic in DOC facilities. However, that is not the reality. I SUPPORT A FAVORABLE VOTE FOR THE CORRECTIONAL OMBUDSMAN BILL.

Vocational Programming: I am a person who is always seeking to better himself and gain all the necessary tools to be a successful, productive citizen when I am released. The main problem is that there are approximately seven institutions that have some kind of vocational programming, but not one of them have what the other prisons offer. So, if an incarcerated person is not transferred to an institution that offers a particular vocational skill, that person may never get the opportunity to gain a skill. Over 400 lifers were blessed to return to society within the last 20 years. Most of them had no skill, training or vocational knowledge to fall back on. I had to beg to be transferred to an institution to be taught business and CDL Preparedness. Most incarcerated persons are transferred for bad behavior or for security reasons—not to earn a skill. I SUPPORT A FAVORABLE VOTE FOR THE CORRECTIONAL OMBUDSMAN.

ARP/IGO Process: The Inmate Grievance process is a joke to the inmate and the officers. Officers do what they want to do with impunity. When officers act outside their ethics, they tell incarcerated persons to "write it up" because they know that nothing will happen. Another problem is that there is a lack of professionalism because officers operate from the friend, homeboy, homegirl, girlfriend and boyfriend perspective when it comes to investigating issues that are written up using the ARP process. Officers are very disrespectful to incarcerated persons and their families when they visit them. Family members do not complain because they fear retaliation. When incarcerated persons file a complaint using the ARP process, the complaint is ignored or ruled or dismissed. Many ARP complaints fall on death ears. Independent oversight will help resolve all the issues and bring them to light throughout the Maryland system. Independent oversight will allow issues to be addressed by people who have integrity and do not have a conflict of interest. There are so many experiences of mistreatment in the Department of Corrections from visits, to lack of hot water, windows that do not open or close, lack of ventilation, lack of clothing and not enough educational staff to meet the needs of incarcerated persons that need GEDs. I ASK FOR A FAVORABLE VOTE FOR THE CORRECTIONAL OMBUDSMAN BILL.

Subject: Wide-Spread Systemic  
Exclusion of Public Records

TO: Maryland General Assembly Judi-  
cial and Judicial Committee

From: Yimoe Nitya Siddha #448394 -  
0389304 (MCIT)

Date Nov. 25, 2023

To Whom This May Concern:

I am presently being housed at  
the Maryland Correctional Institution -  
Jessup. As I've mentioned in the above  
caption, my issue is a systemic one  
and is wide-spread here in Mary-  
land. (1) Concerning Access to Court  
Records which the U.S. Constitution  
affords to every individual in a  
criminal case - attached to due pro-  
cess; however, that is not the case  
with Maryland prisoners. The Six  
Amendment and State law allows  
me the rights to appeal my convict-  
ion and the Record Keepers shall  
provide access to those records.

(2) Criminal Appeals Division  
Fees for MP/A documents Requests,  
the Application for MP/A section 10-  
611 through 10-628 for inspection is  
being denied on a wide-spread level.

Briefly, I have personally been  
trying to attain my transcripts to  
file an appeal about my criminal

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conviction. It's been over a year,  
I've been denied due process at  
every turn, even my appeal was  
denied because I could not attain  
the transcripts for the hearing in  
question.

Despite, with Certificates of Indi-  
gency (MPTIA) every Maryland Agency  
and/or Record Keeper of these Public  
Records has denied my transcripts.

Just to make this issue clear,  
the Court Clerk has given me the run  
around so much so that even when  
I filed a Judicial Review and was  
assigned Civil Action No. C-06-CV-23-  
000344; and pursuant to Maryland  
Rule 7-202(d)(1), a copy of the  
petition was sent to agencies in question.  
That was dated 7/26/2023, to date, no  
response. I've filed motions for  
hearing or response, the Court refuses  
to acknowledge this judicial review.

That's how serious this issue is, there is  
no oversight. Prisoners and my self con-  
stitutional rights are being violated  
by the keep institutions that suppose  
to be protecting those rights. Each  
day that goes by is not just a violat-  
ion but with out due process, keeps  
me in prison when the Constitution  
affords me the rights to an appeal.  
Again, it's been over a year  
and I can not file any kind of

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of appeal, that is not only against the law but our right demand in its self.

The Office of the Attorney General, who oversees the Criminal Appeals Division, refuse to file a complaint in my behalf, when their office acknowledged that I am the free stakeholder of those documents, so much so, that their office sent me every transcript for free because I fall within that range (indigent) and said that the Courts and vendors refuse to send even the attorney General Office these transcripts.

So those private vendors whom extort prisoners, despite, indigent or not, or public official breaks the law and U.S. Constitution when prisoners, such as my self can not even appeal a conviction. Everything stops at the Circuit Court back door.

Someone has to step in and righten this injustice. It's wrong and criminal on every level, that's why I'm writing to ask that your committee, as a body of Maryland legislators not only investigate but change the law that prevent prisoners from the justice system, that prevent from access to the Courts.

An oversight committee will resolve this problem before any other

prisoner is denied access to the courts because the level of wage spread systemic issue in Maryland has already begun, it would be a FAVORABLE NOTICE in support to all Maryland prisoners who has been fighting for years to receive public records (their transcripts) or has been locked out the justice system due to these private vendors who court clerk has allowed to extort Maryland prisoners who are poor.

Please your response is urgent needed. Thank you for your consideration.

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Can the Mayor Office; Wes Moore be made aware that this Constitutional violation and Md law is being violated as we speak. And that the Office of the Attorney General confirm that public officials are even denying his office these public records.