

Testimony to House Judiciary Committee

HB732 Local Control of Baltimore City Police Department

Position: Support

Dear Chairperson Clippinger and Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

This testimony is being submitted by Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore, a group of individuals working to move white folks as part of a multi-racial movement for equity and racial justice in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Howard County. We are also working in collaboration with the Campaign for Justice, Safety, and Jobs. I am a resident of district **43A**. **I am testifying in support of HB732.**



Showing Up for Racial Justice

I would like to express my strong support for HB732, which would grant Baltimore City the authority to oversee and govern its own police department.

This legislation represents the final and urgent step towards securing the autonomy necessary for Baltimore City to effectively govern its own police department. It's time to put the power back where it belongs—in the hands of those who know and care about Baltimore. Supporting HB732 is not just about completing a process—it's about reclaiming our voice, our safety, and our future.

Unfortunately, Baltimore City's control of its police department is currently in a city legislative and legal no-man's land with previous state legislation incomplete. This is despite city resident support expressed through a referendum in 2022 and City Council passing authorization in 2023.

Now that Baltimore City is now united in its approach to affective local control, we urge you to give your support of **HB732**.

Sincerely,

David Cramer
6150 Chinquapin Parkway
Baltimore, MD 21239
Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore