

UNFavorable
on HB0290
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Delegates of House Judiciary,
The construct of this bill is unacceptable.
The state of Maryland, home of NSA, knows better than most about unlawful domestic spying. This bill will be misused and will grossly deny American freedoms.

Spying

To allow *ad hoc* wire intercept and transmission interceptions of “wire, oral or electronic communication” based on feelings is unacceptable.

To allow *ad hoc* wire intercept and transmission interceptions of “wire, oral or electronic communication” based on definitions which are constantly in flux is unacceptable. There’s a bill introduced even in the 2024 Session seeking to reinvent the state of “crime of violence”.

Domestic Violence Analyzed for its many False Allegations

A decade ago, one of the most astute lawyers ever to grace House Judiciary broke down the prevalence of domestic violence in the State of Maryland. In doing so, he was battling with flawed talking points by various activist groups, many of which could give no cogent, intelligible replies to his questions and points. One of those points revolved around the sincerity of these DV accusations. His point – about half of the accusers never showed up for court. Recent in-person testimony on a Delegate (now-Sen.) Nick Charles’ bill by a Baltimore City courthouse staff characterized the frequency and audaciousness of false allegations as having earned the nickname “Calvert Street C!@#s” by courthouse staff. That is, there are so many women making false accusations, it is routine. Delegate Simmons was prescient.

Unneeded

The instances given in the bill on page 2 of the bill, lines 17-22 all have adequate redress through other measures. Wellness checks work. Stalking, rape and breach of a protective order have immediate remedies in this state. This bill is unbalanced, offering little in actual remedy and portends huge abuse issues where electronic interceptions are taken for granted.

humbly
~vince