

# MARYLAND CHRISTIAN LEGAL SOCIETY

1808 Wilson Point Road  
Baltimore, Maryland 21220

February 27, 2024

Chairman William C. Smith, Jr.	Chairman Luke Clippinger
Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee	House Judiciary Committee
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 East Wing	House Office Building, Room 101
11 Bladen Street, Annapolis, MD 21401	6 Bladen Street, Annapolis, MD 21401

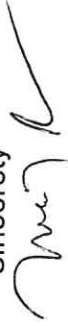
Re: Support for SB 827/HB 1079  
Courts and Judicial Proceedings – Jury Examination

Dear Chairman Smith and Chairman Clippinger:

We write to urge a favorable report on SB 827/HB 1079 which addresses critical issues surrounding *voir dire* in Maryland. This legislation aligns Maryland with the rest of the country and mitigates the risk of explicit and implicit bias in jury selection. SB 827/HB 1079 is a crucial step towards improving our legal system, ensuring equal representation, and fostering diversity within our courtrooms. By widening the scope of *voir dire*, SB 827/HB 1079 is a step in the right direction to give all Marylanders a fairer jury and provides attorneys with essential information to exercise peremptory challenges judiciously without violating constitutional principles.

We urge you to support the passage of SB 827/HB 1079 to ensure equal access to a fair and impartial trial by jury. Thank you for your attention to this matter and your dedication to the principles of justice.

Sincerely



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Vice President

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c.c. David Snyder, Treasurer  
Lance Conklin, President