

MARLON AMPREY
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DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

Economic Matters Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Thursday, March 27, 2025

Chairman Smith
Vice Chair Waldstreicher
Maryland Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East Miller Senate Office Building
2 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Testimony of Delegate Marlon Amprey in Support of House Bill 877 Prison Education Delivery Reform Commission – Reporting and Sunset Extension

Dear Chairman Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Committee members,

HB877 is being introduced to extend the Prison Education Delivery Reform Commission's work and following that it provides semiannual and annual reports. This body is dedicated to uncovering the root causes of recidivism and identifying meaningful solutions to break the cycle of incarceration in Maryland.

Our state continues to grapple with persistently high rates of recidivism, a challenge that cannot be addressed without a deeper, research-driven understanding of why individuals reoffend. The incredible work of this commission is not just about expanding educational access for incarcerated individuals—it is about investigating the systemic failures that contribute to reincarceration and identifying solutions that can disrupt that cycle.

The Commission was established to examine the gaps in our correctional education system and develop strategic solutions that empower incarcerated individuals with the knowledge and skills to build productive futures. Their work is essential—but their mission is far from complete. By extending the commission's timeline, HB 0877 ensures that their recommendations are fully developed, evidence-based, and capable of driving tangible change—ultimately providing a stronger foundation for improving educational resources within our prison system to break the cycle of incarceration, reduce repeat offenses, and improve public safety.

As lawmakers, we must continue to champion solutions that give justice-involved individuals a real opportunity to rebuild their lives. Supporting this commission means

investing research-driven strategies that create lasting change—equipping people with the tools they need to reintegrate, contribute to the workforce, and reunite with their families. Today, you have the chance to boost efforts to break cycles of incarceration and build pathways to opportunity for countless individuals across Maryland.

For these reasons, I urge a favorable report on HB877.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marlon Amprey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "M".

Delegate Marlon Amprey
40th Legislative District of Maryland