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Judicial Proceedings Committee  
Executive Nominations Committee

Senate Chair

Joint Committee on  
Children, Youth, and Families

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**Testimony of Senator Mary-Dulany James**  
**In Support of SB 811 – Task Force on the Creation of a Division of Returning Citizens and**  
**Expanded Reentry Services – Extension of Report Deadline and Task Force**  
**Before the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee**  
**February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

Dear Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Members of the Committee,

In the 2024 Legislative Session, Senate Bill 1036 established a task force that examines re-entry services in the state and the feasibility of creating a division of returning citizens within the division of the department of public safety and correctional services. The bill passed both chambers unanimously.

The task force began its work in October of 2024, and it quickly became evident that the scope and the amount of work needed to adequately address the needs of Maryland's returning citizens will require time beyond the report due date.

I come before you today presenting Senate Bill 811, which simply requests an extension on the original submission deadline of the task force report from December 31st, 2025, to October 31st, 2026. This extension will allow for a comprehensive assessment and thorough report from the task force regarding Maryland's commitment to successful re-entry and reduced recidivism.

I appreciate the Committee's consideration of Senate Bill 811 and ask for a Favorable Report.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary-Dulany James". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Senator Mary-Dulany James