



**Moms for Liberty Maryland Legislative Committee urges a favorable report for HB 638: *Juveniles - Sexual Offenses - Registration and Reporting Requirements***

This bill addresses crucial issues related to juvenile offenders and sexual offenses. This bill expands the scope of accountability for juveniles who commit acts that, if carried out by adults, would constitute serious sexual offenses. Specifically, the bill mandates that such juveniles be included in a separate juvenile sex offender registry, to be maintained by the Department of Juvenile Services. The bill's provision to require juvenile offenders to remain on the registry until the age of 21 is a necessary step toward public safety. Juvenile offenders, particularly those who have committed severe sexual offenses, must be closely monitored to ensure that they do not reoffend.

This measure also helps to ensure that law enforcement and other relevant agencies have access to crucial information that can prevent future harm. Furthermore, the expansion of the "reportable offense" definition is a commendable move that ensures schools are notified when a juvenile is arrested for a sexual offense. This will enable schools to take appropriate steps to protect students and address potential risks in a timely manner. Ultimately, HB 638 strikes a balance between rehabilitation and accountability. It recognizes that while juveniles have the capacity for reform, those who commit serious sexual offenses must be held accountable for their actions.

This bill provides a framework for rehabilitation while ensuring public safety. **Moms for Liberty Maryland Legislative Committee strongly supports a favorable report for HB 0638.**