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February 17, 2025

Chairman Luke Clippinger
House Judiciary Committee
House Office Building, Room 101
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: HB 113 - Civil Actions - Noneconomic Damages

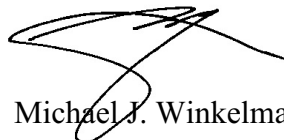
Dear Chairman Clippinger, Vice Chair Bartlett and Judiciary Committee Members:

I write to urge a FAVORABLE report on HB 113, which would restore constitutional protections to Maryland citizens.

The Constitution guarantees the right to a jury trial in civil cases. The Constitution provides a jury of one's peers as the appropriate entity to determine both liability and compensation for resulting injuries. 40 years ago, the Maryland legislature usurped this Constitutional right from juries, and passed legislation which provides legislators, who do not hear the evidence in any case, are better suited to determine damages than juries. I ask that you return the rights guaranteed in our Constitution to juries, rather than perpetuate the government over-reach into our legal system.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Winkelman