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Legislative District 41
Baltimore City

Health and Government Operations
Committee

Chair

Health Occupations and
Long-Term Care Subcommittee

House Chair

Joint Committee on Administrative,
Executive, and Legislative Review



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Testimony of Delegate Samuel I. Rosenberg

Before the House Judiciary Committee

In Support of

House Bill 868

Estates and Trusts - Interpretation of Wills - Evidence of Intent (Granny's Law)

Chair Clippinger and Members of the Committee:

My constituent, Jennifer Johnson, is the lead advocate on House Bill 868, also known as 'Granny's Law.' Ms. Johnson has worked extensively on this bill, to help rectify wrongdoings perpetrated against her late grandmother and their family. The Johnson family, like many others, continues to suffer long after their loved one passed away.

Too often, Maryland's Orphans Court misinterpret the wills of people like Ms. Johnson's grandmother while ignoring the pleas from the deceased's family and other trusted representatives. Those who have done the most for people like Ms. Johnson's grandmother, the caregivers, also continue to receive little to no respect. HB 868 seeks to return the authority on family estates to the family and caregiver.

These injustices, like most others, disproportionately burden our residents of color. HB 868 seeks to conform the resolution of wills to better reflect the state policy eliminating health-based disparities.

I urge this Committee to issue a favorable report on HB 868.

February 27, 2025