



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HB 1452: Hate Crimes and Hate Bias - Definitions of Sexual Orientation and Hate Bias Incident

Judiciary Committee

Tuesday, March 11th, 2025 - 1:00PM

Chair Klippinger, Vice Chair Bartlett, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

HB 1452 is legislation based on the recommendations of the Commission on Hate Crime Response and Prevention, established two years ago by the work of this Committee. The legislation proposes clearly defining “hate bias incident” in statute and altering the definition of “sexual orientation”.

These legislative recommendations were included in the Commission’s first annual report, which was legislatively mandated. They concluded that the “first and most critical recommendation is to clearly define a hate bias incident” and to “provide a new definition that would be able to grow with society’s understanding of sexual orientation.”

I urge the Committee to give a favorable report on HB 1452.