

TESTIMONY

SB0541 – Judicial Removal – Disqualification From Future Judicial Office

Bill Sponsor: Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee (By Request – Maryland Judicial Conference)

Committee: Senate Judicial Proceedings

Organization Submitting:

Person Submitting: Rebecca M. Turner

Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in support of SB0541 on behalf of myself.

SB0541 proposes a constitutional amendment to ensure that any judge removed from office or retired upon recommendation of the Commission on Judicial Disabilities is permanently disqualified from serving again. If a judge's conduct is serious enough to warrant removal, the public should not have to worry about that person returning to the bench.

It is unfortunate that we even need a bill like this. In a time when shame and empathy seem to be in short supply, clear standards of accountability matter more than ever. Marylanders deserve to know that those entrusted with judicial power are held to the highest ethical expectations.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge a **FAVORABLE** report on SB0541.

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