

**Testimony on Senate Bill – Favorable**  
**SB0854 - Public Safety - Law Enforcement Officers - Restrictions**  
**Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee**

**February 24, 2026**

Dear Honorable Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Samantha Hodge-Williams, and I am a resident of Garrett County, Maryland. I am writing in support of **SB0845 - Public Safety - Law Enforcement Officers – Restrictions**.

For years, our country has banned racial profiling nationally as it violates constitutional rights. It's important now that our state also has a ban on racial profiling to ensure that violations can be prosecuted. Without clear state-level protections, federal rulings could weaken how our rights are protected in Maryland. Federal law enforcement should be held to the same standards of conduct as trustworthy local law enforcement.

Please support **SB0845 - Public Safety - Law Enforcement Officers – Restrictions**

Thank you for your time and consideration.