

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

I am thankful that our country has banned racial profiling nationally for years a constitutional violation. Our state now should also have 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.