

Hearing Date: Wednesday, 2/4/26 at 11:00 AM  
Aleah Williamson  
Westminster, MD 21157

**Testimony on SB268 – Favorable  
Correctional Services – Restrictive Housing – Individuals with Developmental  
or Intellectual Disabilities**

**To:** Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

**From:** Aleah Williamson

My name is Aleah Williamson. I live in District 5, Westminster and I am the President and Principal Consultant of A Woman's Mindset, LLC.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in **support of SB0268**, which strengthens safeguards for incarcerated individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities by authorizing clinical assessment at intake, permitting clinically informed recommendations regarding restrictive housing, and limiting restrictive housing except in narrowly defined circumstances.

Federal data show that **nearly 40% of incarcerated individuals report at least one disability**, a rate significantly higher than in the general population. Yet correctional settings often lack consistent screening and continuity of care. When disabilities go unidentified or unsupported, particularly in restrictive housing—individuals frequently experience worsening physical, cognitive, and mental health outcomes.

This deterioration directly impacts reentry. Worsened disability-related conditions reduce functional capacity, making it more difficult for individuals to participate in treatment, maintain employment, and achieve post-release stability, while increasing long-term system costs.

SB0268 supports the **Health & Restoration Pillar** of the *Isaiah 61 Pilot* by improving upstream conditions during incarceration that determine whether stabilization and restoration are achievable after release. Specifically, SB0268:

- Supports early clinical identification of developmental and intellectual disabilities.
- Places clinically informed limits on restrictive housing, which can exacerbate disability-related conditions; and
- Helps preserve the functional capacity needed for treatment, training, and employment post-incarceration.

By grounding placement and treatment decisions in clinical judgment while maintaining safety and accountability, SB0268 promotes more effective reentry outcomes and broader public safety goals.

For these reasons, I respectfully request a **Favorable Report** on **SB0268**.

Respectfully submitted,

**Aleah Williamson**

President & Principal Consultant  
A Woman's Mindset, LLC