

Date of Hearing: February 24, 2026
Julie Robin Solomon
Baltimore City, Maryland 21231

TESTIMONY ON SB#0854 - POSITION: FAVORABLE

Full Bill Name: Public Safety—Law Enforcement Officers--Restrictions

TO: Chair, Sen William Smith; Vice Chair, Sen. Jeff Waldstreicher; and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Julie Robin Solomon

My name is Julie Robin Solomon. I am a resident of District 46. I am submitting this testimony on SB#0854—Public Safety—Law Enforcement Officers—Restrictions.

I have resided in Baltimore City for 39 years. I belong to the ACLU, Casa, and Indivisible Baltimore. I strongly urge the Committee to pass SB#0854 . This Act is essential to ensure a civil right that is basic—to be free from racial profiling by all law enforcement officers, federal and state. Aall Marylanders, particularly those from historically disenfranchised communities, need to be protected from racial profiling. During this era, when the Trump administration is using ICE and CPB as a fascistic militia, we must make sure that all our community members, including vulnerable populations in our community, are not subject to racial profiling. It is our duty as Maryland citizens and elected officials to stand up for the most vulnerable in our community. That is what democracy means--safeguarding the total populace. As a longtime Baltimore City Resident, I have personally witnessed how police and the sheriff's department (in the past) have racially profiled my family members—stopping my young African American godsons on the street for no reason—even stealing from them. I have an African American son and African-American grandchildren and godchildren. My factotum is Latina. I want to make sure that they are not subject to such profiling. As our Federal Government becomes more racist and aggressive in its fascistic policing practices, our state must take a lead in ensuring that our citizens are not racially profiled. SB#0854 is an important way to achieve this aim. Thank you for all your hard work and efforts to stand up for our democracy.