

**Testimony on House Bill 1262 – Favorable  
HB1262– Public Safety-Law Enforcement Officers-Restrictions**

**Judiciary Committee**

**March 5, 2026**

Dear Honorable Chair Bartlett, Vice Chair Davis, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Dr. Marcia Coe and I am a resident of Leonardtown, Maryland. I am writing in support of HB1262.

Racial profiling is discriminatory and law enforcement officers should be prohibited from this practice. Law enforcement officers who disclose instances of racial profiling should be protected from retaliatory punitive action.

Because racial profiling means basing decisions on racial bias or false assumptions, rather than reasonable suspicion or evidence, it violates the Fourth Amendment guarantee to be free of unreasonable searches and seizures.

Racial profiling alienates people from law enforcement, undermines community-policing efforts, and erodes trust. As a result, law-enforcement officers and agencies lose credibility with the very communities they are sworn to protect and serve.

I urge you to vote favorably for this bill.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marcia Coe, MD  
Leonardtown, MD 20650