

Support: FAV

Glenn A. Blackwell

Address: 6 Mill Creek Court, Owings Mills, MD 21117

Email: glennblackwell@verizon.net

Phone: 443-463-9492

Dear Judicial Proceedings Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members:

I have the pleasure of knowing and working with Jennifer Johnson through our local genealogical society chapter. I emailed Jen this morning and expressed how proud I am of her and how much she genuinely reminds me of my own daughter who is just a few years younger than she. Jennifer reminds me so much of my wonderful daughter; they are both smart, committed, and fierce about their passions. I'm proud and pleased to say that my daughter is, in many ways, a chip off the old block.

This letter, however, is about Jennifer and about Granny's Law, legislation in honor of Jennifer's grandmother, legislation that seeks to correct historical wrongs in the probate system.

I think it is the precise time in our state for this legislation's passage as it is a nice complement to the recent passage of the reparations legislation which is also led by Senator Muse.

As the President of The Baltimore Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society (BAAHGS), we frequently encounter the history of probate law in our research and how we as African Americans were chattel property in probate proceedings for many decades of our nation's nascent history. While that period has thankfully passed, it is sad that vestiges of that era still remain.

It is with my unique position and understanding of the historical wrongs seen in wills, and the understanding of the wrongs that happened to Jennifer and her grandmother's estate, that I wholeheartedly support Granny's Law legislation and ask for your full committee's favorable support.

Sincerely,

Glenn A. Blackwell