



Peter Franchot  
*Comptroller*

## TESTIMONY OF COMPTROLLER PETER FRANCHOT

**Support - House Bill 667 - General Provisions - State Song - Repeal**

*Health and Government Operations Committee*

*February 24, 2021*

Chair Pendergrass, Vice Chair Pena-Melnyk and members of the Committee, it is my pleasure to provide testimony in **support** of **House Bill 667 - General Provisions - State Song - Repeal**. I would like to thank Speaker Pro Tem Sample-Hughes for sponsoring this legislation.

For too long, Marylanders have had to grapple with our state song “Maryland, My Maryland” and all its outdated and offensive references. From a hostile reference to Lincoln, to talking about “the Northern scum”, this song has long been contradictory to values Marylanders hold. There was only one correct “side” to be on during the Civil War, and I think it’s time our state song recognizes that. I firmly believe the state song should be repealed.

For the reasons stated above, I respectfully request a **favorable report** for House Bill 667. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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