

TESTIMONY FOR HB0667

General Provisions - State Song - Repeal

Bill Sponsor: Delegate Sample-Hughes

Committee: Health and Government Operations

Organization Submitting: Lower Shore Progressive Caucus

Person Submitting: Amber Green, LSPC Member

Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB0667 on behalf of the Lower Shore Progressive Caucus. The Caucus is a political and activist organization on the Eastern Shore, unaffiliated with any political party, committed to empowering working people by building a Progressive movement on the Lower Eastern Shore.

The current version of the Maryland State Song is a harmful call of support to the traitorous confederacy and the horrors of slavery they fought to uphold. The song has been a rallying cry for White Supremacists and other extremists to commit acts of racial terror on the Eastern Shore both in the past and to this very day. To keep this despicable song as our State song would do nothing but embolden these hate groups and normalize their acts of terror against People of Color in my community.

It is for these reasons the Lower Shore Progressive Caucus supports this bill and recommends a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.