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Health and Government Operations  
Committee

Chair

Government Operations and  
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Joint Committee on Administrative,  
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Testimony of Delegate Samuel I. Rosenberg  
Before the House Judiciary Committee  
In Support Of  
**House Bill 1046**

**Vehicle Laws - Policies and Prohibition Against Discriminatory Traffic Stops**

*“The term “racial profiling” means the practice of a law enforcement agent or agency relying, to any degree, on actual or perceived race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation in selecting which individual to subject to routine or spontaneous investigatory activities.*

*The term “routine or spontaneous investigatory activities” [includes] the following activities by a law enforcement agent...[t]raffic stops.”*

- Excerpt from, H.R.1280 - George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021

Mister Chairman and Members of the Committee:

As this committee well knows, a model policy against race-based traffic stops has been developed by the Maryland Police and Training Standards Commission. Maryland was in the forefront of this important civil rights protection.

Today I am asking this committee to follow the lead of the Congress of the United States.

House Bill 1046 would require the Commission to develop a model policy which expands the definition of a prohibited traffic stop to include “race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation.” Any of these characteristics could not be the sole justification to *initiate* a traffic stop.

H.R.1280, the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021, has passed the House of Representatives with the language cited above. Senator Ben Cardin has introduced a bill with similar language.

I urge the Committee to build upon our policy setting in this area and act favorably on House Bill 1046.

March 10, 2021