



**TESTIMONY FOR HB0187
PUBLIC SAFETY - LAW ENFORCEMENT – BODY-WORN CAMERAS**

Bill Sponsor: Delegate Ivey

Committee: Judiciary

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Cecilia Plante, co-chair

Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB0187 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

Our Coalition is heavily in favor of having police use body-worn cameras. We believe that they are a necessary item and that all officers should wear them.

We believe that there should be procedures in place for the use of the cameras, as well as procedures for when recording is mandatory vs when it is discretionary. We support the language in the bill calling for development of these procedures for all law enforcement agencies.

While we would also like to see procedures for having the cameras inspected on a regular basis to ensure that they do not fail to record when they should be recording, we believe that this is an important policy to adopt and we fully support having all officers wear body-worn cameras.

We support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.