



February 19, 2021

**Testimony on HB 336/ HB 1284 –
Support for JHU Repeal
House Judiciary Committee**

Position: Favorable

No Boundaries Coalition supports HB 336/ HB 1284 the repeal of the JHU enabling legislation.

The No Boundaries Coalition (the “Coalition”) is a resident-led advocacy organization building a unified and empowered Central West Baltimore (CWB) across the boundaries of race, class and neighborhoods. The No Boundaries Coalition is the largest grassroots organization in West Baltimore, with over 200 individual members. The Coalition mobilizes residents from seven different neighborhoods in 21217 to address racial and economic inequality in Baltimore City and improve the quality of life for Central West Baltimore residents. Currently, the Coalition is advocating for increased police accountability, safer streets, more opportunities for young people, increased voter turnout and more healthy foods in our neighborhoods.

The safety of Baltimore’s residents is one of our major focuses. No Boundaries has advocated for fair policing for over five years since the death of Freddie Gray. With the many problems that are still in Baltimore, allowing JHU to have their own police force will not help solve any of them.

Our organization serves a population that uses public transportation. We need to ensure that the MTA’s funding is large enough to service current maintenance needs and to reimagine what transportation should look like in the Baltimore Metro Area.

We are asking that this repeal moves forward. Allowing private entities to establish police agencies is a failure for Maryland.

We encourage a FAVORABLE report for this important legislation.

Sincerely,

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“deconstructing boundaries, building community”

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