

Bill Number: HB 1046
Scott D. Shellenberger, State's Attorney for Baltimore County
Opposed

WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF SCOTT SHELLENBERGER,
STATE'S ATTORNEY FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY,
IN OPPOSITION TO HOUSE BILL 1046
VEHICLE LAWS – POLICIES AND PROHIBITON AGAINST
DISCRIMINATORY TRAFFIC STOPS

I write in opposition to House Bill 1046 adding to a police officer's requirements that record and retain certain information at each traffic stop.

I do not object to requiring a model policy (found at (b)(4)) against traffic stops being based on race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation. Policies and training on these topics are beneficial.

What does not make sense is the additions made to (d) at 16, 17, 18, and 19.

Each of those additions will require questions to be asked of the driver. Can you imagine being pulled over by a police officer for speeding and being asked:

- "What is your religion?"
- "What is your preferred sexual orientation?"
- "What is your gender?" etc.
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This will cause tensions to rise during a traffic stop and make matters worse.

I urge an unfavorable report.