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Chair
Business Regulation Subcommittee

House Chair, Veterans Caucus
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony for HB 197
Judiciary Committee

Good afternoon Mr. Chairman, Madame Vice – Chair, and esteemed members of the committee.
I am Delegate C.T Wilson and it’s a privilege to be here to present:

House Bill 197 entitled Criminal Procedures – Police Officers – Stop procedures (Know Your Rights Act).

Bill Overview:

Requiring a police officer to display proper identification and provide certain information to certain individuals at the commencement of a certain stop, with a certain exception; requiring a police officer to inform certain passengers and occupants of a certain vehicle of the right to refuse to provide identification to the police officer at a certain time; prohibiting a police officer from seizing certain items without a warrant or using certain tactics or deliberately misrepresenting facts for a certain purpose; etc.

Bill Outline:

1. At the commencement of a traffic or other stop, absent circumstances, a police officer must display proper identification including the officers name, badge number, and informing the driver of the reason for the stop.
2. During the traffic or other stop, the police officer may not seize personal items from individual including a cell phone or other recording device without a warrant.

Conclusion: In conclusion, this bill aims to protect citizens of our state from self-incrimination during a traffic stop by requiring police officers to present proper information about the reason for the stop. This bill also purports to ensure that those who are stopped are not required to surrender personal items without the presentation of a warrant.

Thank you for your time and I request a favorable report for **HB 197**. I am open to any questions or concerns that you may have regarding this bill.