



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony for HB 1353

Health and Government Operations

Good Afternoon Madame Chair, 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 1353: Omnibus Procurement Reform Act (“OPRA”) of 2022

Bill Overview:

Requiring the expeditious disclosure of certain procurement information; altering the conditions under which certain solicitations may be canceled or certain bids or proposals may be rejected; establishing certain requirements for county procurement contracts that use State funds; applying provisions of the State procurement law regarding contract claims and protests to certain county procurement contracts; etc.

- Prohibit the Board of Contract Appeals from affirming certain actions unless the existence of certain conditions is proved by clear and convincing evidence.
- Alter the conditions under which parties to an appeal from a decision about a protest may engage in certain additional discover.
- Reduce the time by which the Appeals Board must issue its final decision on an appeal from a decision about a contract claim
- Require the Appeals Board to award certain damages and costs under certain circumstances
- Expand the authority of the Appeals Board to award certain costs, generally relating to State and county procurement contracts.

Conclusion:

The intent of this bill is to ensure fair and equitable treatment of small minority businesses and of all persons who deal with the State procurement system.

Thank you for your time and I request a favorable report with amendments for **HB 1353**.