

Date of Hearing: February 13, 2024

Barbara Schaffer  
Rockville, MD 20850

**TESTIMONY ON SB0120-UNFAVORABLE**  
**Juvenile Law - Custodial Interrogation - Parental Consultation**

**TO:** Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

**FROM:** Barbara Schaffer

**OPENING:** My name is Barbara Schaffer. I am a resident of District 17. I am submitting this testimony against SB0120, Juvenile Law - Custodial Interrogation - Parental Consultation.

I am a concerned citizen about justice for Maryland's children. Along with adults, children deserve a life with dignity, respect, and safety.

SB120 targets the Child Interrogation Protection Act, a crucial piece of legislation to protect the rights of children. I want to urge the committee to resist any additional efforts to roll back youth justice reforms, like SB120 would do.

Children must be given the opportunity to speak to a lawyer prior to a custodial interrogation by law enforcement – SB120's stipulation that a child can consult with their parent, guardian, or custodian instead of an attorney before a law enforcement officer may conduct a custodial interrogation is simply insufficient.

ion of a child without the child's consultation with an attorney is simply insufficient.

I respectfully urge this committee to return an unfavorable report on SB0120.