

TESTIMONY FOR HB0365 CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL – PROSECUTION OF POLICE OFFICER

Bill Sponsor: Delegate Fisher, W.

Committee: Judiciary

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Cecilia Plante, co-chair

Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB0365 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

Our Coalition members believe in accountability for police officers when use of force injures or kills members of the public. In these extreme cases, it is critically important for the public to feel that the case is being taken seriously and that justice is being served. For cases where serious bodily injury or death has been allegedly caused by a law enforcement officer, having the Attorney General prosecute the case will provide the level of transparency and accountability required.

We support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.