



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MARYLAND, INC.

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS COMMITTEE

SB 946 - CORRECTIONAL SERVICES – RESTRICTIVE HOUSING – REPORT

POSITION: SUPPORT

BY: BARBARA SCHNACKENBERG & NANCY SORENG CO-PRESIDENTS

DATE: MARCH 2, 2016

The League of Women Voters of Maryland supports a prison system which adopts, monitors and enforces standards which provide a humane physical and psychological setting. Prolonged periods of segregated confinement (also known as solitary confinement) have resulted in the impaired mental function of inmates. We have no firsthand information about the use of solitary confinement in Maryland prisons. Thus, we believe a report which provides the information requested in this bill would go a long way to establishing whether Maryland's prisons are indeed humane.

We urge the committee to report favorably on this bill.