

Carlos R. Hunter  
320 Marshall Street  
Hampton, VA 23669

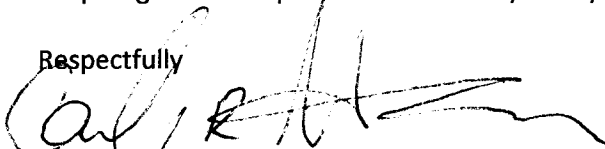
February 7, 2023

Hello, my name is Carlos Hunter. I live in Hampton Virginia, 91<sup>st</sup> district. I thank you for allowing me yet again to discuss criminal justice reform and public safety with you specifically HB 1380.

A pretextual traffic stop is when a law enforcement officer stops a vehicle for a minor traffic violation to investigate the driver for a more serious crime. It is a form of racial profiling and is illegal in many states. A pretextual stop can have a profound impact on any individual regardless of race, but it is especially concerning for black individuals. Research has shown that black drivers are more likely to be stopped by law enforcement for minor traffic violations than other racial groups. This type of stop can lead to further profiling, the questioning of an individual's identity, and potentially even the use of excessive force.

I have addressed you before about this issue specifically HB79 which is identical in nature to this proposal. I will remind you all that a "pretextual stop" can at worst be a death sentence to an African American. This proposal is nothing more than another method to introduces African Americans to the justice system as early as possible. It also helps to perpetuate the stigma that African Americans commit more crimes than other Americans. Let me be clear, pretextual stops will create biased-based profiling and is a public safety hazard. Sadly, nothing has changed from the last time I wrote you on this matter and another young black man, Tyre Nichols was the latest victim to die at the hands of the police. Please keep Virginia a safe place for me and my family to live. Please vote no on HB1380.

Respectfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carlos Hunter', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Carlos Hunter  
USN Retired