BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL



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March 10, 2020

Members of the Appropriations Committee

House Office Building

6 Bladen Street

Annapolis, MD 21401 – 1991

Members of the Appropriations Committee:

I am writing to **support** House Bill (HB) 1555, authored by Delegate Melissa Wells. HB1555 will authorize Baltimore City to create residency requirements for the command staff of the Baltimore Police Department (BPD).

HB1555 would build on the progress of the residency requirement law passed by the City Council in 2017. It requires top agency officials in Baltimore City to also reside in the City they serve. HB1555 would authorize the City Council to mandate the same residency requirement for the command staff of the BPD.

We have seen the positive side effects of government leaders living in the communities they are serving. It's our due diligence to explore if this proposal could support Baltimore City and the BPD as well. The City Council and our constituents are ready for this conversation.

For these reasons, I urge you to **support** HB1555 to allow Baltimore City to create residency requirements for the Baltimore Police Department command staff.

Thank you,

Councilman Bill Henry, 4th District, Baltimore City