



## Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

### Office of the Secretary Office of Government and Legislative Affairs

45 Calvert Street, Suite B7A-C, Annapolis MD 21401  
410-260-6070 • Fax: 410-974-2586 • www.dpscs.state.md.us

STATE OF MARYLAND

LARRY HOGAN  
GOVERNOR

BOYD K. RUTHERFORD  
LT. GOVERNOR

ROBERT L. GREEN  
SECRETARY

RACHEL SESSA  
CHIEF OF STAFF

CHRISTOPHER McCULLY  
DEPUTY SECRETARY  
ADMINISTRATION

J. MICHAEL ZEIGLER  
DEPUTY SECRETARY  
OPERATIONS

CAROLYN J. SCRUGGS  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

GARY W. McLHINNEY  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

CATHERINE KAHL  
ACTING DIRECTOR

February 27, 2020

House Appropriations Committee  
121 House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: House Bill (HB) 152— Budget Reconciliation and Financing  
Act of 2020 — **OPPOSITION TO DLS RECOMMENDED CUTS**

Dear Chairman McIntosh, Vice Chairman Jackson, Members of the  
Committee –

The Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Department) strongly opposes the budget cuts recommended by the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) in the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act (BRFA) of 2020. Specifically, DLS is recommending cutting \$18 million from the Department's fiscal year 2020 budget. This recommended action would jeopardize public safety in the State of Maryland.

DLS has historically testified and emphasized that the Department is chronically underfunded. Yet DLS is recommending cutting \$18 million from the current fiscal year (FY). Not only does the Department disagree with this recommended action in principle, but it also disagrees with the justification for the recommended budget cut. After accounting for adjustments, the Department will only have a \$4.4 million surplus which is needed to cover salary shortfalls related to inadequate special and federal funding.

This recommended action would have a drastic and negative impact to the Department's FY 2020 budget. I hope this information is useful. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact Chief of Staff Rachel Sessa at (410) 260-6070 or [rachel.sessa@maryland.gov](mailto:rachel.sessa@maryland.gov).

Sincerely,

Secretary Robert L. Green