

ALONZO T. WASHINGTON
Legislative District 22
Prince George's County

Vice Chair
Ways and Means Committee

Chair, Education Subcommittee



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 131
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3652 · 301-858-3652
800-492-7122 Ext. 3652
Fax 410-841-3699 · 301-858-3699
Alonzo.Washington@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**Testimony in Support of HB1409 – Prince George’s County - Marriage License Fees –
Distribution of Proceeds**

I am proposing HB1409 because Community Crisis Services Inc. (CCSI) provides critical resources to members of District 22 and Prince George’s County.

Background:

Headquartered in Hyattsville, CCSI was founded in 1970. For 50 years, it has been a one-stop calling center for information and compassionate assistance for those in crisis. Calling the Hotline is often the first step an individual makes to access the mental health services and social service organizations within the community. They are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year for anyone facing crisis and personal turmoil. Their vision is to provide compassionate crisis support through their hotline, safe shelter programs and referral services.

In 1981, the former Family Crisis Center (FCC) of Prince George’s County was opened as a domestic violence shelter, which provided many services and programming for victims of domestic abuse. In 2018, Family Crisis Center was acquired by CCSI, and its services have continued under the new organization.

Why We Need This Bill:

Currently under Maryland Statute, Marriage License Fees in Prince George’s County are allocated towards the former Family Crisis Center (which no longer formally exists in the County). As you can see, this legislation simply updates the name in statute so that the fees will be allocated toward CCSI, which acquired FCC. This piece of legislation is necessary for CCSI to continue to operate at full capacity, and provide crucial programming and resources for residents of Prince George’s County.

I respectfully urge a favorable report on HB1409.