



BALTIMORE COUNTY LODGE NO. 4
FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE
INCORPORATED

CORPORATE OFFICES • 9304 HARFORD ROAD • BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21234
(410) 668-0004 • (410) 668-0046 • FAX (410) 668-8126
www.foplodge4.org

DAVID M. ROSE
LODGE PRESIDENT

DONNA M. PATTERSON
LODGE SECRETARY

Honorable Guy Guzzone, Chairman
Budget and Taxation3 West
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Md 21401

RE: Senate Bill 463 – Public Safety – Police Athletic League Grant Fund – Establishment – Support

Chairman Guzzone,

The Baltimore County Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge #4 and the Maryland State Fraternal Order of Police are in support of SB 463.

The Police Athletic League (PAL) is an important program for building relationships between youths and police officers in the community. The PAL program allows for nontraditional law enforcement and youth interaction that often leads to mentoring and the breaking down of barriers that have become quite visible in recent years.

In the beginning of the great recession in 2009 when funding priorities had to be made, many of these programs were deemed a “low priority” in tough budgetary times. Funding was cut and PAL facilities were either closed, had officers reassigned elsewhere or both. At the time, this seemed like a prudent decision. However, a decade later, we now deal with the unforeseen consequences of what was probably the most important purpose of this program. Building police, community, and youth relationships. We have since lost a whole generation of positivity. Hopefully with the passing of SB 463, there will be sufficient funding to allow this program to stay viable and open. Only then can we move forward in rebuilding the relationships we took for granted in the past.

The Baltimore County Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge #4 and the Maryland State Fraternal Order of Police urge a favorable report on SB 463.

Dave Rose
President
Baltimore County FOP Lodge #4

