MICHAEL A. JACKSON

Legislative District 27

Calvert, Charles and

Prince George's Counties

Budget and Taxation Committee

Subcommittees

Chair, Pensions

Public Safety, Transportation, and Environment



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TESTIMONY - SENATE BILL 191

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY – OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF – DUTIES AND DEPUTY SHERIFFS

JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 9, 2023

Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Committee Members:

Senate Bill 191 is a very straightforward bill that increases from four to five the number of assistant sheriffs provided in the office of the Sheriff of Prince George's County. Additionally, this bill would make two other changes to current law. It would give the agency the authority to investigate domestic violence calls, and it would shift collective bargaining authority (not involving salary) for the Sheriff, chief assistant sheriff, and assistant sheriffs to the Fraternal Order of Police.

This legislation comes as a direct effort by the new Prince George's County Sheriff to better and more efficiently adhere to the police accountability and transparency efforts that were passed by the General Assembly in 2021, as the primary responsibility of this new assistant sheriff position would be relating to in-house accountability matters. The other substantive change created by this legislation would simply create a more efficient means to serve the public as the Office of the Sheriff would be enabled to investigate domestic violence calls to which they already respond.

As someone who once served in the capacity of the Prince George's County Sheriff, I have a keen interest in the success of this office and I strongly believe that these changes would allow the Sheriff and the agency to better serve the public.

For the reasons listed above, I ask for a favorable report of Senate Bill 191.



SB0191/493825/1

AMENDMENTS
PREPARED
BY THE
DEPT. OF LEGISLATIVE
SERVICES

25 JAN 23 13:02:20

BY: Senator Jackson

(To be offered in the Judicial Proceedings Committee and the Judicial Proceedings Committee)

AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 191

(First Reading File Bill)

On page 1, at the top of the page, insert "EMERGENCY BILL".

On page 6, strike in their entirety lines 17 and 18 and substitute:

"SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is enacted."