



February 21, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this correspondence as a letter of support for Senator Corderman's initiative to increase funding for Bill 7-1512(g). The funding allocation for this grant has not been increased since its inception in 2018. In the last six years, the needs of every school district in Maryland have changed, and costs have significantly increased. The current language in the statute says the allocation must be "at least" \$10 million dollars, which would allow a precedent for an increase.

With increased funding, school districts throughout the State would be afforded the opportunity to expand the School Resource Officer program, and employ secondary positions to further enhance school safety. The School Resource Officer program has made a positive impact in Queen Anne's County Public Schools. Increasing funding and expanding this already successful program would benefit every student and staff member in our District. We wholeheartedly support an increase in funding for Bill 7-1512(g).

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patricia Saelens".

Dr. Patricia Saelens,
Superintendent