



Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

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BILL: SENATE BILL 251

POSITION: SUPPORT

EXPLANATION: This bill alters the language in the Correctional Services Article regarding the facilities within the Division of Pretrial Detention and Services by repealing references relating to the Baltimore City Detention Center and adding language relating to the Youth Detention Center.

COMMENTS:

- The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services' Division of Pretrial Detention and Services (Division) oversees five facilities located in Baltimore City that houses pretrial detainees and incarcerated individuals sentenced to incarceration for periods of 18 months and less, including the Youth Detention Center and the Baltimore Booking and Intake Center.
- SB 251 removes references to the Baltimore City Detention Center (BCDC) which closed in 2015, and was demolished in 2021, along with 39 other structures at the jail complex, and replaces the language to reflect the Baltimore City Booking and Intake Center.
- The Youth Detention Center (YDC) is the Division's newest facility that opened in 2017 and houses male and female youth under the age of 18 who have been charged in Baltimore City as adults and are either waiting for their trials or are serving the beginning of their sentence. This bill adds language to reference YDC.
- In summary, SB 251 replaces outdated language to reflect the current facilities under the Division. As it relates to legal matters involving the Department, it is important for statute to reference current facilities.

- **CONCLUSION:** For these reasons, the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services respectfully requests the Committee to vote **FAVORABLY** on Senate Bill 251.