

JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR.  
*County Executive*



JENNIFER AIOSA  
*Director of Government Affairs*

AMANDA KONTZ CARR  
*Legislative Officer*

WILLIAM J. THORNE  
*Legislative Associate*

**BILL NO.:**            **SB 1158**

**TITLE:**                **Crime of Violence – Education Facilities, Medical Facilities, and Places of Worship – Penalty (Sacred Places Safety Act)**

**SPONSOR:**            **Senator Muse**

**COMMITTEE:**        **Judicial Proceedings**

**POSITION:**          **SUPPORT**

**DATE:**                **April 2, 2024**

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 1158 – Crime of Violence – Educational Facilities, Medical Facilities, and Places of Worship – Penalty (Sacred Places Safety Act). This legislation would make the act of a crime of violence a separate felony if the crime is committed on the property of an educational facility, medical facility, or a place of worship.

As the United States continues to be plagued by an epidemic of gun violence, it is crucial that both State and local government is taking steps to both hold perpetrators of gun violence accountable and protect our communities. The influx of mass casualty events targeting schools, houses of worship, and other community centers is unconscionable. SB 1158 would grant prosecutors the ability to pursue additional penalties and longer prison sentences, bringing those responsible for these inhumane crimes to justice.

Accordingly, Baltimore County urges a **FAVORABLE** report on SB 1158 from the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee. For more information, please contact Jenn Aiosa, Director of Government Affairs at [jaiosa@baltimorecountymd.gov](mailto:jaiosa@baltimorecountymd.gov).