



MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

EVAN GLASS
COUNCILMEMBER AT-LARGE

TRANSPORTATION & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE, CHAIR
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

William Smith, Chair
Judicial Proceedings Committee
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 East Wing
11 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401 - 1991

Position: Support SB48

Chairman Smith and members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee,

I write to you expressing my support for SB48, Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission - Police Officer Certification – Eligibility.

Jurisdictions across the state and country, including Montgomery County, are facing difficulties hiring individuals to serve in law enforcement. While we have implemented financial incentives to recruit qualified individuals, our ranks remain lower than many would prefer. Resolving this situation will require a multiprong approach, one of which is to reimagine the requirements to hold law enforcement positions.

SB48 is an innovative approach to increasing the pool of law enforcement applicants. By expanding employment opportunities to permanent legal residents of the United States who were honorably discharged veterans of the United States armed forces, we are helping create career pathways for individuals who served our country. In a community like Montgomery County where one-third of our residents are foreign born, this policy would provide additional benefits and assist with our efforts to foster an inclusive community policing strategy.

If these dedicated individuals are willing to put their lives on the line to protect our country, they should be allowed to put their lives on the line to serve our communities.

I ask that the Committee support this legislation and provide local jurisdictions with addition strategies to keeping our residents safe.

Thank you for your consideration.

Evan Glass
Councilmember