

**SB 0081/HB 0329: Criminal Law - School Resource Officers - Prohibition on Sexual Activity with Students:** Please VOTE TO SUPPORT this bill.

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I respectfully write in **strong support of SB 0081 / HB 0329 – Criminal Law – School Resource Officers – Prohibition on Sexual Activity with Students.**

This bill addresses a critical gap in the law by making explicit what should already be beyond question: **school resource officers must never engage in sexual activity with any students, EVER, but especially those students under their supervision or authority.** Students are inherently vulnerable, and school resource officers occupy positions of trust, power, and authority within educational environments. Any sexual conduct under these circumstances is inherently coercive and exploitative.

SB 0081/HB 0329 appropriately recognizes that consent cannot exist where there is a profound imbalance of power. By clearly prohibiting sexual activity between school resource officers and students, this legislation strengthens protections for minors, reinforces ethical standards, and helps prevent abuse before it occurs.

Importantly, the bill provides clarity and accountability for law enforcement agencies, school systems, parents, and students alike. Clear statutory language ensures consistent enforcement, strengthens deterrence, and affirms Maryland’s commitment to safeguarding children in school settings.

This legislation is not punitive—it is **protective, preventative, and necessary.** It reinforces public trust in school safety personnel while prioritizing the well-being and dignity of students.

Also, this bill was sponsored with **bipartisan support.** This bill is NOT about party or about partisan politics. It is about student safety and clear conduct requirements of all school resource officers. How can anyone from either party be against these two very important objectives when they relate to our children?

For these reasons, I respectfully urge everyone on both committees to **vote IN FAVOR of SB 0081 / HB 0329.**

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,  
Trudy Tibbals

