



**COMMISSION FOR WOMEN
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CLUSTER**

January 26, 2026

Senator William C. Smith
Chair, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 East Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 0187 Correctional Services - Comprehensive Rehabilitative Prerelease Services - Female Incarcerated Individuals

Position: **SUPPORT**

Dear Chairperson Smith and members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee,

On behalf of the Montgomery County Commission for Women, I am writing to ask for your support of SB 0187 — Correctional Services - Comprehensive Rehabilitative Prerelease Services - Female Incarcerated Individuals. Constructing and operating a dedicated pre-release center for justice-involved women returning to their communities embodies the state's fundamental obligation to provide equality to men and women under the law. At the same time, the complementary set of services provided in the pre-release setting, which, as articulated, would include employment and training services, medical and mental health treatment, family reunification support, housing assistance and other wraparound supports coupled with a less-restrictive environment than a traditional prison setting, sets conditions for women ex-offenders to return to their families and communities better equipped to achieve successful re-integration, and, in turn, better social, emotional, employment and economic outcomes for themselves and their families.

Statistics show that fully 80 percent of incarcerated women are mothers and many were primary or sole providers prior to incarceration. The two-generation ripple-effect implications of women's incarceration and release only amplifies Maryland's obligation to ensure the pre-release center for women is properly situated and equipped to deliver the services, residential capacity and setting to facilitate women's successful re-introduction to their families and communities, all of which will pay dividends not just for the women they're serving, but for the families they'll support and the communities that will receive them. We urge that this be the session to realize established commitments and aspirations to deliver on behalf of Maryland women who have been justice-involved.

Sincerely,

Commissioner Tiffany Boiman
Policy and Legislative Committee
Montgomery County Commission for Women

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