

SENATE BILL 202

E4
SB 532/25 – JPR

(PRE-FILED)

6lr1375

By: **Senator Folden**

Requested: October 28, 2025

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2026

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 7, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Police Discipline – Order to Show Cause**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a police officer who is denied a certain right to apply to the
4 circuit court at a certain time for an order that directs the law enforcement agency
5 to show cause why the right should not be granted; and generally relating to police
6 disciplinary proceedings.

7 BY ~~adding to~~ repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article – Public Safety

9 Section ~~3-113.1~~ 3-110

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
13 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article – Public Safety**

15 ~~3-113.1.~~

16 ~~(A) AT ANY TIME BEFORE A HEARING IS HELD BY THE HEARING BOARD~~
17 ~~UNDER § 3-106 OF THIS SUBTITLE, A POLICE OFFICER WHO IS DENIED A RIGHT~~
18 ~~GRANTED BY THIS SUBTITLE MAY APPLY TO THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR AN ORDER~~

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 ~~THAT DIRECTS THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY TO SHOW CAUSE WHY THE RIGHT~~
2 ~~SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED.~~

3 ~~(B) THE POLICE OFFICER SHALL MAKE THE APPLICATION:~~

4 ~~(1) IF THE POLICE OFFICER IS AN EMPLOYEE OF A COUNTYWIDE OR~~
5 ~~LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY, TO THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY IN~~
6 ~~WHICH THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY IS LOCATED; AND~~

7 ~~(2) IF THE POLICE OFFICER IS AN EMPLOYEE OF A STATEWIDE OR~~
8 ~~BICOUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY, TO THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ANNE~~
9 ~~ARUNDEL COUNTY.~~

10 3-110.

11 (a) A police officer may not be discharged, disciplined, demoted, or denied
12 promotion, transfer, or reassignment, or otherwise discriminated against or threatened in
13 regard to the police officer's employment because the police officer:

14 (1) disclosed information that evidences:

15 (i) mismanagement;

16 (ii) a waste of government resources;

17 (iii) a danger to public health or safety; or

18 (iv) a violation of law or policy committed by another police officer; or

19 (2) lawfully exercised constitutional rights.

20 (b) A police officer may not be denied the right to bring suit arising out of the
21 police officer's official duties.

22 (c) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, a police officer has the same
23 rights to engage in political activity as a State employee.

24 (2) This right to engage in political activity does not apply when the police
25 officer is on duty or acting in an official capacity.

26 (d) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, a law enforcement agency
27 may not prohibit secondary employment by police officers.

28 (2) A law enforcement agency may adopt reasonable regulations that relate
29 to secondary employment by police officers.

1 **(E) A POLICE OFFICER WHO IS DENIED A RIGHT GRANTED BY THIS SECTION,**
2 **FOR WHICH THE DENIAL IS NOT ELIGIBLE TO BE REMEDIED BY A TRIAL BOARD**
3 **UNDER § 3-106 OF THIS SUBTITLE, MAY APPLY TO THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR AN**
4 **ORDER THAT DIRECTS A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY TO SHOW CAUSE WHY THE**
5 **RIGHT SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED.**

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
7 October 1, 2026.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.