

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2026 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 1392
Judiciary

(Delegate Grammer, *et al.*)

Public Safety - Law Enforcement - Quotas (Community-Oriented Policing Act)

This bill alters an existing prohibition against establishing a quota or using the number of arrests made or citations issued by a law enforcement officer as the sole or primary criterion for the promotion, demotion, dismissal, or transfer of the officer. Under the bill, a law enforcement agency may not (1) establish *or maintain* a formal or informal quota for the law enforcement agency or law enforcement officers of the agency; (2) use the number of arrests made, *investigations conducted*, citations issued, *or warrants served or executed* by a law enforcement officer as *the basis* for *evaluation, compensation, discipline*, promotion, demotion, dismissal, or transfer of the officer; (3) require a law enforcement officer or suggest to a law enforcement officer that the officer is expected to meet a quota; or (4) offer a financial reward or other benefit to a law enforcement officer determined by or based on the quota of the officer. In addition, the bill authorizes a law enforcement officer to report the use of quotas by a law enforcement agency to the Office of the Attorney General (OAG). OAG must investigate any report made within one year of its submission. If after the investigation OAG finds that a law enforcement agency used quotas in violation of the provisions described above, the Attorney General must order the agency to cease and desist from using quotas. The bill establishes related requirements for OAG.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Although the bill may have an operational impact on State law enforcement agencies, it is not anticipated to affect State finances. OAG and the Office of Administrative Hearings can implement the bill with existing resources.

Local Effect: Although the bill may have an operational impact on local law enforcement agencies, it is not anticipated to affect local government finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: OAG must create and make readily available online a standard form that may be used by a law enforcement officer to report the use of quotas by a law enforcement agency of the officer. In addition, OAG must adopt regulations that (1) determine the procedure for a required investigation and (2) provide the law enforcement agency that is the subject of the investigation an opportunity to be heard.

Current Law: A law enforcement agency is prohibited from (1) establishing a formal or informal quota for the law enforcement agency or its law enforcement officers or (2) using the number of arrests made or citations issued by a law enforcement officer as the sole or primary criterion for promotion, demotion, dismissal, or transfer of the officer. However, these provisions do not preclude a law enforcement agency from (1) using quantitative data for arrests, citations, and other law enforcement activities as management tools or in evaluating performance; (2) collecting, analyzing, and applying information concerning the number of arrests and citations in order to ensure that a particular law enforcement officer or group of law enforcement officers does not violate an applicable legal obligation; or (3) assessing the proportion of arrests made and citations issued by a law enforcement officer or group of law enforcement officers.

Additional Comments: The bill prohibits the use of the number of arrests made, investigations conducted, citations issued, or warrants served or executed by a law enforcement officer as the *basis for evaluation, compensation, discipline, promotion, demotion, dismissal, or transfer of the officer*. However, under current law, a law enforcement agency is not precluded from using quantitative data for arrests, citations, and other law enforcement activities *as management tools or in evaluating performance*.

The Department of State Police (DSP) advises that the bill may have an operational impact on law enforcement agencies as the agency (and others) use enforcement statistics as a tool in evaluating the diligence and effectiveness of its police officers. DSP advises that enforcement quotas are not used; however, the number of enforcement actions taken (*e.g.*, investigations/inspections completed, arrests made, and/or citations issued) by a law enforcement officer is a measurable aspect that can be used as an evaluation tool. Thus, prohibiting the use of such information may hinder an agency's ability to create work improvement plans and encourage improved diligence of its police officers.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has been introduced within the last three years. See HB 687 of 2025; HB 6 of 2024; and HB 221 of 2023.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, Queen Anne's, and St. Mary's counties; Maryland Municipal League; Town of Bel Air; Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission; Office of the Attorney General; Comptroller's Office; University System of Maryland; Morgan State University; Maryland Department of Labor; Department of Natural Resources; Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services; Department of State Police; Maryland Department of Transportation; Office of Administrative Hearings; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 6, 2026
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Analysis by: Shirleen M. E. Pilgrim

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510