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FROM THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME PREVENTION, YOUTH, AND VICTIM SERVICES

March 3, 2020

Chairwoman Maggie McIntosh
House Appropriations Committee
Room 121
House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: House Bill 1355: Public Safety - Interjurisdictional Policing Grant Program - Establishment

POSITION: Letter of Information

Dear Chair McIntosh and Members of the House Appropriations Committee,

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services ("Office") is providing this letter of information for House Bill 1355: Public Safety - Interjurisdictional Policing Grant Program - Establishment.

House Bill 1355 creates an Interjurisdictional Policing Grant Program at the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention Youth and Victim Services. HB 1355 defines Interjurisdictional Policing Agreement as: "an agreement between two or more counties to cooperate on law enforcement activities." The Office will be required to establish guidelines for counties to apply and receive grants from the program.

Counties may apply for a grant from the program to: (1) establish an interjurisdictional policing agreement, (2) support future law enforcement activity in accordance with the agreement, or (3) be reimbursed for law enforcement activity undertaken in accordance with an interjurisdictional policing agreement.

The Office would need additional resources to facilitate and oversee the implementation of the new grant program. The grant program would require a mandate funding of \$3.5 million beginning in FY22, and the Office would be required to post an annual report of the funding on the agency website.

This program is similar to interjurisdictional law enforcement efforts being undertaken by the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services. The Office is home to the Maryland Criminal Intelligence Network ("MCIN"). MCIN is a criminal justice strategy, coordinated at the local, state, and federal levels targeting gangs, drug, firearms and human trafficking. MCIN is particularly focused on those criminal networks that are impacting multiple jurisdictions and accomplishes this by sharing information across borders. It is a key element of Maryland's public safety strategy and provides the basis for data-driven decision making both operationally and for policy development.

MCIN's goals are focused on identifying, disrupting, and dismantling criminal networks through collaboration and comprehensive data sharing. The purpose of the MCIN program is to enhance coordination among public safety partner agencies to ensure that tactics, resources, and intelligence are integrated for the purpose of targeting criminal networks and gangs. This integration includes enforcement, prevention, intervention, and reentry strategies.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V. Glenn Fueston, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

V. Glenn Fueston, Jr.
Executive Director
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services

For all inquiries, please contact
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