



**Brandon M. Scott**  
*President*  
Baltimore City Council

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**HB 1555**

March 10, 2020

**TO:** Members of the House Appropriations Committee

**FROM:** The Honorable Brandon M. Scott, Baltimore City Council President

**RE:** HOUSE BILL 1555 – Baltimore City - Members of the Command Staff of the Police Department - Residency Requirements

**POSITION: SUPPORT**

Chairwoman McIntosh, Vice-Chairman Jackson, and Members of the Committee, please be advised that the Baltimore City Council President **supports** House Bill 1555.

As we continue to reform and improve the Baltimore Police Department, we know how important it is to consider the concerns of the residents who are served. Policing is one where an intimate knowledge of the area you patrol is paramount to resolving and preventing crime. Officers who are part of the communities they serve are best equipped to assist in our crime reduction efforts.

This bill would authorize the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to require certain at-will supervisory members of the Police Department to reside within the City. As such, future leaders of our Police Department would be able to share in the experiences of residents and help resolve them on the ground level because they would be our neighbors. It should be noted that this bill does not seek to apply this requirement to all officers on the force but is limited to the high-level decision-makers.

I respectfully request a **favorable** report on House Bill 1555.

cc: The Honorable Antonio Hayes  
cc: The Honorable Stephanie Smith