RIC METZGAR *Legislative District 6* Baltimore County

Appropriations Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates 6 Bladen Street, Room 413 Annapolis, Maryland 21401 410-841-3332 · 301-858-3332 800-492-7122 *Ext.* 3332 Ric.Metzgar@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES Annapolis, Maryland 21401

SB 516 Correctional Services-Murder-Diminution Credits (Geraldine's Law) February 19, 2020

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Vice Chairman, and Distinguished Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

I am Delegate Ric Metzgar from Legislative District 6, Baltimore County. Thank you for the opportunity to express my support today for SB 516 Correctional Services-Murder-Diminution Credits (Geraldine's Law)

I sponsored HB 43 Criminal Procedure-Plea Agreement Terms and the Violence Prevention Initiative Criteria which an individual charged with a crime of violence will serve his/her sentence imposed without reduction by diminution credits or parole which cannot be modified by a plea agreement.

SB 516 prohibits the earning of diminution credits to reduce the term of a confinement of an inmate who is serving a sentence for murder in the first degree or murder in the second degree in a State of local correctional facility.

Crime, particularly murder, is out of hand. People are afraid to leave their homes because of the crime. SB 516 takes the important step to stop repeated offenders from committing more murders. I respectfully request a favorable report on SB 516. Thank you for your time and consideration.