

**CHURCHILL\_FAV\_SB561**

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Position: FAV

Larry Hogan  
Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford  
Lt. Governor



Ellington E. Churchill, Jr.  
Secretary

Michael S. Wilson  
Chief of Police

## MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

### MARYLAND CAPITOL POLICE

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**BILL:** Senate Bill 561

Department of General Services - Jurisdiction and Maryland Capitol Police

**COMMITTEE:** Judicial Proceedings

**DATE:** February 19, 2020

**POSITION:** Support

Senate Bill 561 –Department of General Services – Jurisdiction and Maryland Capitol Police. The Maryland Capitol Police of the Department of General Services (MCP) provides this letter in support of Senate Bill 561.

As of July 1, 2019 the Department of Labor police force (DOL) was merged into the MCP. This consolidation was in support of the Governor's initiative to improve customer services. Passage of Senate Bill 561 will provide:

- Centralized police force;
- Improved customer service that is more efficient and effective;
- A uniformed command and control structure; and
- Long-term savings to the state.

The merger of the DOL force into the MPC added 27 locations administered by the DOL throughout the state. Research by MCP suggested that there was limited or no jurisdiction or authority to enforce state laws at several of the DOL properties, particularly leased buildings or those occupied under cooperative agreements.

As such, **MCP is now responsible for responding for facilities in multiple jurisdictions with limited or questionable authority to act.** Senate Bill 561 will provide sworn members of the MCP with the authority to enforce criminal, motor vehicle and traffic laws in state owned or leased facilities which includes 1,000 feet surrounding each property.

For additional information, contact Chief Michael S. Wilson, Maryland Capitol Police at 410-767-4431 or Ellen Robertson, DGS Legislative Liaison at 410-260-2908.

## **Miller\_FAV\_SB561**

Uploaded by: Senator Miller, Senator Miller

Position: FAV

**THOMAS V. MIKE MILLER, JR.**  
PRESIDENT EMERITUS  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE  
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**Testimony of Senator Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.**  
**Senate Bill 561 - Department of General Services – Jurisdiction and Maryland  
Capitol Police**

Chairman Smith and Committee Members:

Following the merger of the Maryland Capitol Police (MCP) of the Department of General Services (DGS) with the Department of Labor Police Force during the 2019 Legislative Session, Senate Bill 561 expands the jurisdiction of the MCP.

Since the Departments came together, MCP found that there was limited jurisdiction for enforcement of State laws at several Department of Labor properties. This bill will increase the authority of DGS and MCP to all State-owned or State-leased buildings and grounds as well as to the surrounding area 1,000 feet in any direction from the boundary of those buildings and grounds. Additionally, under this legislation the Secretary of General Services must appoint the Chief of MCP, who will serve at the pleasure of the Secretary. The Chief will oversee all of the operations of the MCP.

This legislation will allow MCP to more effectively resolve crime committed on state property and will create operational efficiency and accountability. For these reasons, I respectfully ask the Judicial Proceedings Committee for a favorable report on Senate Bill 561.

# **MSP\_FAV\_SB 561**

Uploaded by: Williams, Tom

Position: FAV



**State of Maryland**  
**Department of State Police**  
Government Affairs Section  
Annapolis Office (410) 260-6100

**POSITION ON PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

**DATE:** February 19, 2020

**BILL NUMBER:** Senate Bill 561                      **Position:** Support

**BILL TITLE:** Department of General Services – Jurisdiction and Maryland Capitol Police

**REVIEW AND ANALYSIS:**

This legislation seeks to alter the jurisdiction of the Department of General Services (DGS) to include all state-owned or state leased buildings and grounds. By the authority granted to DGS, the Maryland Capitol Police shall also have police authority on all state-owned property or state leased buildings.

The Maryland Capitol Police provides facility security at a number of locations in the state. The law has not been entirely clear on which properties were included within their jurisdiction. When the Maryland Capitol Police absorbed the Department of Labor (DOL) police force, there was some concern the limitations in the current law could restrict the ability of the Maryland Capitol Police to enforce the law on DOL properties.

Senate Bill 561 seeks to clarify the authority of the Maryland Capitol Police as well as define the authority of the Secretary of the DGS in appointing a chief and the hiring of police officers. The bill repeals outdated language relating to the authority of police agencies that might, at one time, have been called to handle incidents on state property. This legislation does not diminish the rights of the officers.

For these reasons, the Department of State Police urges the Committee to give Senate Bill 561 a favorable report.