



Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland

Shared voices for liberal religious values in Maryland

SUPPORT HB479- Public Safety - Maryland Police Training and Standards

Commission

Citations in Lieu of Arrest

February 11, 2020

Dear Chairman Clippinger, Vice –Chair Atterbeary, and House Judiciary members,

The Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland asks for your support of HB479 because it is involved in implementing a bill, HB261 – Citations, which we support. This bill calls for using Anne Arundel County's method of training the police who will write the Citations based on a program that the county has been using over the past several years. The curriculum involves role- playing which teachers find very effective in certain situations such as those the police may encounter. Thorough training is extremely important to prepare our police for this change. Anne Arundel County has steadily increased its use of citations in 2006 from 2,015 to 3,923 in 2013. This is a “smart on crime” bill and aligns with The Unitarian Universalist principle of supporting and using the democratic process in our work.

The Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry urges a positive vote for HB 479.

Karen Clark – Criminal Justice Task Force