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Appropriations Committee

Public Safety and  
Administration Subcommittee



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**Testimony in Support of House Bill 1368** Correctional Services - Home County Correctional Facility Program

Chair Clippinger & Vice Chair Atterbeary, Members of the Judiciary Committee,

Please be advised that we had some challenges with the drafting process that has made the original bill a bit more complicated than intended. I'm here to present the amended version, which accomplishes our ultimate goal of helping inmates reenter into society sooner with the best resources and support system possible.

The state of Maryland currently offers a volunteer program for inmates that sign up to return back to their home county for a period of time towards the end of their sentence. This volunteer program has not been as popular/attractive because there is no incentive to participate. HB1368 would create a diminution credit of 5 days off per calendar month sentence for any inmate that volunteers to participate in this program. Maryland currently offers a variety of diminution credits for inmates that participate in educational opportunities, community service, and other enriching activities, and this would be another opportunity for inmates to reduce their time in jail and get back into their home communities.