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County Executive

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BILL NO.: **SB 463**

TITLE: Public Safety – Police Athletic League Grant Fund –
Establishment

SPONSOR: Senator West

COMMITTEE: Budget and Taxation

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

DATE: February 2, 2021

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 463 – Public Safety – Police Athletic League Grant Fund – Establishment. This legislation creates the Police Athletic League Grant Fund to create and support police athletic league (PAL) programs.

PAL centers provide essential after school and summer programs that encourage youth to play and exercise. Baltimore County Executive Olszewski requested \$1 million in capital funding for two Police Athletic League Centers this year because he knows they are an upstream investment in the County’s children that provide support beyond the classroom. Baltimore County currently has nine PAL centers support more than 950 registered children.

When Marylanders can all recover and congregate after the COVID-19 pandemic, our children will have spent far too much time staying indoors and away from one another. Investments in outdoor activities are critical to promote socialization and an active lifestyle by making funds available now, SB 463 will ensure that PAL programs will be funded and ready for use when we can gather safely.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on SB 463. For more information, please contact Chuck Conner, Director of Government Affairs, at cconner@baltimorecountymd.gov.