



Maryland Association of
LOCAL MANAGEMENT BOARDS

February 3, 2021

In support of Senate Bill 406

On behalf of the Maryland Association of Local Management Boards I am writing in support of Senate Bill 406 which establishes local youth violence review committees in each jurisdiction in Maryland.

Rising youth violence is a major concern in many local neighborhoods across the state. Youth involved in violence have often come to the attention of several government agencies prior to becoming a victim or a perpetrator. Each one of these touchpoints are missed opportunities to intervene and prevent future harm to that youth, as well as helping to provide a different trajectory than the school to prison pipeline. The local youth violence review committee will allow agencies to work cooperatively to examine these earlier points of potential intervention and consider a differentiated response, as well as examining the recent events that led to the violent act.

As with other review committees, the opportunity to examine all of the issues surrounding a case, using a multidisciplinary team, allows for different perspectives, comprehensive information sharing and honest conversations. The information gathered can be used to manage systemic issues and prevent future violence. This bill creates a mechanism for improving our work with juveniles.

In conclusion the Maryland Association of Local Management Boards supports SB 406 which creates local youth violence review committees. As local agency leaders we believe most good solutions are created locally using a collaborative model with multiple partners.

Sincerely,

Pamela M. Brown, PhD
Chair

Maryland Association of Local Management Boards