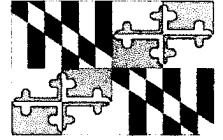




CLYDE BOATWRIGHT
STATE PRESIDENT

Maryland State Lodge
FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

8302 COVE ROAD, BALTIMORE, MD 21222



KENNY SCHUBERT
SECRETARY
EARL KRATZSCH
TREASURER

1/19/21

Senate Bill 260 – Public Safety – Police Officers’ Performance Review Board

Dear Chairman Smith, Vice Chairman Waldstreicher, and esteemed Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee,

The Maryland State Fraternal Order of Police **OPPOSES** Senate Bill 260 - **Public Safety – Police Officers’ Performance Review Board**

This bill as written assumes that a State created panel of citizens will recreate a practice that is already in existence. This panel as described will be comprised of members who don’t have a relationship with Law Enforcement, and it is highly unlikely that members of this panel will even have an understanding of the complexities of a Law Enforcement Officers’ duties and responsibilities. It is unreasonable to believe that a standard of race neutral appropriate behaviors for Police interactions can be created without bias. There is no way to ensure that the discipline is fair, standard and equitable across the board. Most importantly, this bill places the burden of proof on the officer to prove his innocence, removes the final authority of discipline from the Chief and intentionally removes fairness, due process and the formal right to appeal from an officer’s purview. This bill unfairly takes an action against a police officer that would not even be considered against any other citizen and is an attack on the credibility of all officers.

The Maryland State Fraternal Order of Police for these reasons respectfully **OPPOSES** Senate Bill 260 - **Public Safety – Police Officers’ Performance Review Board**

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Angelo L. Consoli Jr,
2nd Vice President,
Fraternal Order of Police, Maryland
State Lodge