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March 3, 2021

TO: The Honorable Luke Clippinger  
Chair, Judiciary Committee

FROM: Hannibal G. Williams II Kemerer  
Chief Counsel for Legislative Affairs, Office of the Attorney General

RE: [HB1186](#) Office of the Attorney General – Firearm Crime, Injuries, Fatalities, and  
Crime Firearms – Study – **Support**

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Chair Clippinger, Vice Chair Atterbeary, and distinguished Members of the Judiciary Committee, the Office of the Attorney General urges a favorable report on HB 1186.

During the 2020 session, the General Assembly passed House Bill 1629, legislation requiring the Office of the Attorney General to produce a firearm crime, injuries, and fatalities study. The law went into effect on June 1, 2020. The first of three reports required by the bill was due on December 1, 2020. Despite our efforts to solicit data from over 150 law enforcement agencies throughout the State, some jurisdictions were unable to compile and report the data in a timely manner during the COVID-19 pandemic. Consequently, we informed the bill's sponsor, Chairman Clippinger, that the initial report would be delayed. We are gratified that the Chairman introduced HB 1186 to extend the time for our first report to December 1, 2021, and to make corresponding changes to the second and third reports so that they are now due on December 1, 2022, and December 1, 2023, respectively.

For the foregoing reasons, the Office of the Attorney General urges a favorable report on HB 1186.

cc: Members of the Judiciary Committee