

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CONFERENCE
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Hon. Mary Ellen Barbera
Chief Judge

187 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401

MEMORANDUM

TO: House Judiciary Committee
FROM: Legislative Committee
Suzanne D. Pelz, Esq.
410-260-1523
RE: House Bill 1338
Juvenile Court – Jurisdiction - Adults
DATE: February 17, 2021
(3/15)
POSITION: Support

The Maryland Judiciary supports House Bill 1338. This bill would amend Maryland Code to repeal the jurisdiction of the juvenile court to hear cases involving certain adults from both CJP Title 3, Subtitle 8 [addressing children in need of assistance and adults] and Subtitle 8A [addressing children alleged to be delinquent or in need of supervision, juvenile peace order proceedings, citations, and adults] and hold that jurisdiction exclusively in the adult criminal court pursuant to the Criminal Law Article (CL).

The Judiciary believes that it is appropriate to hear these cases in the adult criminal court, and not have jurisdiction shared among the juvenile court, District Court, and criminal court. The Judiciary does note that the proposed repeal of CJP § 3-8A-08(b) may be overly broad as it also repeals language related to filing delinquency and citation cases.

cc. Hon. Kathleen Dumais
Judicial Council
Legislative Committee
Kelley O'Connor