

Anne Arundel County Branch Youth and College Division # 7719

"Freedom Fighters of the New Century."

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To: Chair Clippinger, Vice-Chair Atterbeary, and Members of the Judiciary Committee.

The Anne Arundel County NAACP Youth and College Division respectfully submits its support for HB 93 Public Safety - Local Youth Violence Review Committees.

Youth violence prevention is an essential issue and our state must act expeditiously if we all want to see practical change. During this process we will need transparency and we must also ensure that the youth in our state are entitled to a voice in every conversation that regards them. Giving young adults the chance to create change in their community will be significant, this piece of legislation will help start serious progression in our state's violence prevention plans.

Our youth being underrepresented creates miscommunication and a lack of understanding of issues that are directly connected to their well-being. This committee will not only help bridge those gaps, but it will also empower and enlighten our youth to understand that their voices and opinions matter too.

Our branch supports bills that directly affect the youth in Maryland and HB 93 is a bill that will be imperative in helping prevent violence and homicides involving youth, by promoting communication to help determine the causes of youth violence, and give the youth the ability to recommend needed areas.

Therefore, we kindly request a positive action on behalf of this legislation.

President: Harold Lloyd: