



City of Havre de Grace

711 PENNINGTON AVENUE, HAVRE DE GRACE, MARYLAND 21078
WWW.HAVREDEGRACEMD.COM

410- 939-1800
410- 575-7043

February 9, 2021

The Honorable Luke Clippinger
Chair, Judiciary Committee
Room 101
House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Oppose -HB 120 Public Information Act – Personnel Records – Investigations of Law Enforcement Officers (Anton’s Law)

Chairman Clippinger and The Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee:

The City of Havre de Grace opposes House Bill 120. If passed, the legislation would establish that a record relating to an administrative or criminal investigation of misconduct by a law enforcement officer is not a personnel record under the Maryland Public Information Act.

The passage of this legislation by the Maryland General Assembly would impose an unfunded mandate that would force small police agencies to hire administrative staff to process additional public information requests.

In addition to creating an unfunded mandate, HB 120 eliminates the presumption of innocence and privacy for law enforcement officers and inhibits their ability to testify in court.

The City of Havre de Grace urges the committee to give HB 120 an unfavorable report.