



Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis R. Schrader, Acting Secretary

January 19, 2021

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

RE: House Bill 93 - Public Safety - Local Youth Violence Review Committees

Dear Chair Clippinger and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) respectfully submits this letter of information on House Bill 93 - Public Safety - Local Youth Violence Review Committees.

HB 93 allows a county to establish a multidisciplinary and multiagency youth violence review committee. A youth violence review committee's purpose is to prevent violence and homicides involving youth assailants and youth victims.

Due to ongoing COVID-19 response efforts, MDH unfortunately does not have the fiscal or personnel resources to implement this bill if it is passed. Many of the MDH's current personnel have already increased their workload and absorbed additional tasks that are critical to the COVID-19 response. We recognize and value the importance of this bill and its impact on Marylanders. As such, we respectfully request this bill be held and reintroduced in the 2022 Session. We look forward to working with the bill sponsor(s) and appropriate stakeholders in the interim.

I hope this information is useful. If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me at webster.ye@maryland.gov / (410) 260-3190 or Heather Shek, Deputy Director of Governmental Affairs at heather.shek@maryland.gov and at the same phone number.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Webster Ye".

Webster Ye
Assistant Secretary, Health Policy