



City of Havre de Grace

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February 9, 2021

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

**RE: Oppose -HB 671 - Public Information Act – Personnel and Investigatory Records –
Complaints Against Police Officers**

Chairman Clippinger and The Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee:

The City of Havre de Grace opposes House Bill 671. 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 City of Havre de Grace estimates the unfunded mandate created by HB 671 to be in the amount of \$122,000 in FY 2022 and substantially increase each year after that.

In addition to creating an unfunded mandate, HB 671 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 671 an unfavorable report.