
Stacie MacDonald

31 ENCLAVE COURT, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21403

February 15, 2022

Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
11 Bladen St.
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Mr. Chair, Madam Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

I live right here in the heart of Annapolis and I and my neighbors are becoming more afraid of being victims of violent crime every day. Right near this Senate office building an innocent woman was shot to death last June while visiting her son who was attending the Naval Academy. She was murdered while sitting in the patio at the Graduate Hotel, a venue where several legislators stay while the legislature is in session. She was the unintended innocent victim of a "drive-by" shooting.

We have been dealing with unacceptable and increasing levels of violent crime in Maryland for many years. Baltimore City has been hit especially hard with over 35 murders in January alone. I support looking for long term solutions, nonetheless any solution must include getting violent criminals off the streets and into prison where they cannot murder more innocent people.

What plagues our Cities and Counties is recidivism. These career criminals need to be locked up. While I do believe in second chances and rehabilitation, these options should be offered to those that are not repeat violent offenders. It is in the best public interest that repeat violent offenders be taken off the streets and be sentenced to minimum times in prison.

This Bill not only strengthens law enforcement, it forces those - who are in charge - to rid our society of the small criminal class who has wreaked havoc and spread violence for years. Career criminals belong in one place - PRISON. I urge your support for this Bill. While it is not the only answer it is a much-needed start. We must take back our streets from the criminals and begin to restore our communities.

Sincerely,

Stacie MacDonald
