ROBERT G. CASSILLY

Legislative District 34

Harford County

Judicial Proceedings Committee

Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive, and Legislative Review

Joint Committee on Federal Relations



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RE: Senate Bill 652 - Criminal Law - Murder of a Police Officer (Officer Keona Holley Public Safety Act)

Dear Committee Members:

I request your support for SB 652. You are certainly well aware of the horrible murder of Baltimore City Police Officer Keona Holley back in December who was targeted and killed solely because she was a police officer. The purpose of this bill is to provide harsher sentences to those who intentionally target and kill someone just because they are a police officer. The bill removes all options of parole for those convicted of intentionally killing a police officer. The bill expressly excludes those cases where the killing takes place during the course of another crime, such as a robbery or drug transaction. The application of the penalty stated in the bill is limited to those whose intent is to hunt down and kill police officers. Our police officers are risking their lives every day to help keep our streets safe. To be targeted simply because they are a police officer is horrible.

Sincerely

Senator Bob Cassilly