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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 15, 2022

The Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

**SB 439 Somerset County - Local Officials - Salaries and Daily Allowance for Traveling Expenses
Statement of Support by Bill Sponsor Senator Mary Beth Carozza**

Thank you, Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and members of the distinguished Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee for allowing me to present Senate Bill 439 Somerset County - Local Officials - Salaries and Daily Allowance for Traveling Expenses. This legislation would increase and provide updated salaries for specified elected officials in Somerset County to stay competitive with its surrounding counties including Dorchester, Worcester, Wicomico, Caroline, and Kent, and makes a minor modification to increase the daily allowance for the traveling expenses of the Chief Judge and associate judges of Somerset County's Orphans' Court.

You will hear from Gene Adkins, Finance Director for Somerset County, who will share further information on why this legislation is needed and also will be able to answer specific questions regarding the salaries and traveling expenses.

Mr. Chair and Vice Chair, I respectfully urge the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee Members for a favorable report on Senate Bill 439, a local Somerset County bill. Thank you for your kind attention and consideration of this local priority bill.