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Legislative District 44
Baltimore City and Baltimore County

Judicial Proceedings Committee

Joint Committees

Children, Youth, and Families

Ending Homelessness



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
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Senator Charles E. Sydnor III
Testimony Regarding SB 556: Public Safety –
Law Enforcement Agencies – Body-Worn Cameras
Before the Judicial Proceedings Committee
February 23, 2022

Good afternoon Chair Smith, members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee.

I bring to the Committee today a bill to cure a concern resulting from Senate Bill 71 passed during the 2021 Regular Session. Section 1 of Chapter 60 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2021. Article-Public Safety, Section 3-511 of the Annotated Code of Maryland paragraph (c) subsection (2) contains language to identify law enforcement agencies not previously identified in paragraph (c) subsection (1). These law enforcement agencies will have a deadline of July 1, 2025 to require the use of body-worn cameras subject to the policy developed by the law enforcement agency. The identification of these law enforcement agencies included the phrase “of a county” which has resulted in some confusion in determining which agencies are referenced. The removal of this designation “of a county” will provide greater clarity for those who are governed by the July 1, 2025 requirement.

For the aforementioned reasons, I ask that this bill be reported out favorably.