

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY**

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**DONNA F. LANE  
ACTING COUNTY MANAGER  
E. THOMAS MERRYWEATHER  
COUNTY ATTORNEY**

March 14, 2022

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr., Senator  
Judicial Proceedings Committee  
2 East, Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: Letter of Support for Senate Bill 988 Entitled "Dorchester County-Orphans Court-Salary and Expense Allowance of Orphans' Court Judges"**

Dear Senator Smith, Chair and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Dorchester County Council, I respectfully offer its support for Senate Bill 988 entitled "Dorchester County-Orphans Court-Salary and Expense Allowance of Orphans' Court Judges" which will amend Section 2-108 (k) of the Estates and Trusts Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland entitled "Dorchester County" to increase the Dorchester County Orphans Court Judge's salary and their expense allowance.

Due to an increased workload the County Council wishes to raise Orphan's Court Judge's salary from \$4,700, which was set in 2006, to \$6,000. There are now numerous hearings held almost every week. The County Council also wishes to increase the Judges' annual allowance from \$800 to \$1,000 annually since costs have risen substantially since 2006.

The County Council respectfully asks that you look favorably upon Senate Bill 988. Thank you for your time and consideration of this letter of support. Please contact the Council's Office at (410) 228-1700 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**DORCHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL**

Jay L. Newcomb,  
President

jln/dl

cc: The Honorable Adelaide Eckardt, Senator  
The Honorable Christopher T. Adams, Delegate  
The Honorable Sheree Sample-Hughes, Delegate  
The Honorable Johnny Mautz, Delegate