

MCPA-MSA_SB 397_Local Law Enforcement Coordinating

Uploaded by: Andrea Mansfield

Position: FAV



Maryland Chiefs of Police Association

Maryland Sheriffs' Association



MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable William Smith, Jr., Chair and
Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Chief of Staff David Morris, Co-Chair, MCPA, Joint Legislative Committee
Sheriff Darren Popkin, Co-Chair, MSA, Joint Legislative Committee
Andrea Mansfield, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee

DATE: February 10, 2022

RE: **SB 397 Public Safety – Local Law Enforcement Coordination Council and
Coordinator and State Aid for Police Protection Fund**

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) **SUPPORT SB 397**. This bill establishes the Local Law Enforcement Coordination Council and Coordinator position to provide a forum for local law enforcement to work collaboratively on public safety matters and solutions, identify best practices, develop model policies, share data, train the next generation of Chiefs and Sheriffs, and provide professional education opportunities for executive level staff. The bill also provides a 50% increase in state police aid to local jurisdictions statewide.

MCPA and MSA is very supportive of the permanent 50% increase in state police aid and the inclusion of Baltimore City in this funding. These additional resources will provide support to our local law enforcement agencies and allow them to focus on reducing crime, strengthening community relationships, and building upon public safety initiatives.

As described above, the Local Law Enforcement Coordination Council and Coordinator position will provide a forum for local law enforcement to work collaboratively on public safety matters and solutions, identify best practices, develop model policies, share data, train the next generation of Chiefs and Sheriffs, and provide professional education opportunities for executive level staff. While there is a Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission (MPTSC), a Law Enforcement Coordinating Council, and Regional Law Enforcement Councils, these entities have a broader focus and do not provide the type of model policy development, data collection, and training and professional development opportunities envisioned by SB 397. Modeled after the State's Attorney's Coordination Council, this formalized structure will fill these needs.

Many times, in policy discussions a question is asked about policies local law enforcement agencies have in place such as a model use of force policy or how many law enforcement

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agencies have body worn cameras. While regulations are adopted by the MPTSC for these policies, currently an entity does not work to specifically develop model policies for agencies or collect such data. While the MPTSC establishes training requirements for law enforcement officers, an entity does not focus on leadership training and professional development to ensure executive staff can effectively lead our law enforcement agencies of tomorrow. When new legislation is enacted, there is an expectation that all law enforcement agencies are informed and prepared to implement the changes, yet there is no formalized structure to educate agencies on the changes to be sure they are prepared. These are just a few examples of which the Local Law Enforcement Coordination Council and Coordinator will focus. Working closely with the Council Executive Committee composed largely of representatives from MCPA and MSA, the Coordinator will ensure these duties are performed and coordinate with other law enforcement commissions and councils as appropriate. It is envisioned that the Local Law Enforcement Coordination Council will meet throughout the year to discuss the model policies, data collection efforts, and benefit from leadership training and professional development opportunities.

The structure envisioned by SB 397 will also provide resources to carry out these functions. Following the enactment of police reform legislation last session, MPCA and MSA immediately began preparing training sessions to educate law enforcement agencies of the new legislation, requirements, and implementation dates. This was coordinated with the MPTSC to ensure there was no overlap in responsibilities. A total of 6 extensive, half day training sessions were led by a small group of Chiefs and Sheriffs. While effective, preparing for and hold these training sessions, took an extensive amount of time and more training sessions were really needed to fully educate agencies on the new laws. With additional resources, more training sessions could have been scheduled with smaller groups or trainers could have been used to assist. This is just one example of how the Local Law Enforcement Coordination Council and Coordinator position could be used.

As the MPTSC continues its work to develop regulations to implement police reform legislation, many more training sessions are going to be needed to ensure executive staff across all agencies properly implement these bills. MCPA and MSA believe this Coordination Council and Coordinator will be an integral part of these implementation efforts as well as other policy, data, and training initiatives.

For these reasons, MCPA and MSA SUPPORT SB 397 and urge a FAVORABLE report.

SB 397_FAV_MML.pdf

Uploaded by: Angelica Bailey

Position: FAV



Maryland Municipal League

The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

February 10, 2022

Committee: Senate Judicial Proceedings

Bill: _____ SB 397 - Public Safety – Local Law Enforcement Coordination Council and Coordinator and State Aid for Police Protection Fund

Position: Support

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League supports Senate Bill 397, which establishes a Local Law Enforcement Coordination Council and increases the funding to qualifying municipalities for police protection.

The Local Law Enforcement Coordination Council, which may include several municipal police chiefs, and its Coordinator are designed to facilitate working relationships among municipal and county law enforcement agencies. This is already occurring to some degree, but a formalized council and coordinator tasked with sharing resources, reducing redundancies, developing model practices, and streamlining training could significantly improve public safety services and reduce costs.

The most tangible aspect of Sb 397 is the increase in funding of \$975 per officer to qualifying municipalities for police protection. There are about 1820 municipal officers in the State, so this bill could provide as much as \$1.775 million in additional funding for municipal police protection. This additional State aid would significantly subsidize critical operation expenses within municipal police agencies.

For these reasons the League respectfully requests that this committee provide Senate Bill 397 with a favorable report.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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SB0397-JPR_MACo_SUP.pdf

Uploaded by: D'Paul Nibber

Position: FAV



Senate Bill 397

Public Safety – Local Law Enforcement Coordination Council and Coordinator and State Aid for Police Protection Fund

MACo Position: **SUPPORT**

To: Judicial Proceedings and
Budget & Taxation Committees

Date: February 10, 2022

From: D'Paul Nibber

The Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) **SUPPORTS** SB 397. This bill would create a council to coordinate local enforcement efforts and substantially increase supplemental law enforcement grants to counties, including Baltimore City.

In recent years, local law enforcement officials have been charged with adopting several reforms to conform with current best practices. The costs of these reforms have often fallen on stressed county and municipal budgets. SB 397 would potentially provide these governments with over \$40 million in additional funding that could be used to:

- Implement body worn camera programs;
- Hire additional civilian staff to assist with case backlogs;
- Construct and staff civilian review boards; and
- Modernize training modules.

The coordinating council established in SB 397 would provide a forum to better manage intergovernmental agreements and joint policing efforts – potentially improving responses to human trafficking and similar matters that cross jurisdictional boundaries.

Altogether, SB 397 would provide meaningful financial assistance to counties seeking to reform and modernize their local law enforcement practices. For this reason, MACo **SUPPORTS** SB 397 and urges a **FAVORABLE** report.

SB 397_GovernorsOffice_Support.pdf

Uploaded by: Erin Chase

Position: FAV



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TTY USERS CALL VIA MD RELAY

Senate Bill 397 Public Safety - Local Law Enforcement Coordination Council and Coordinator and State Aid for Police Protection Fund

Position: Support

Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

February 10, 2022

Keiffer Mitchell, Chief Legislative Officer & Senior Counselor, Office of the Governor
Erin Chase, Deputy Legislative Officer, Office of the Governor

Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Members of the Committee,

Senate Bill 397 increases State Aid for Police Protection (SAPP) funding by 50%, and creates the Local Law Enforcement Coordination Council and coordinator position. This legislation fulfills Governor Hogan's promise to better support the police by increasing funding to ensure that our local law enforcement agencies have the tools and support they need to effectively keep our communities safe.

Crime, particularly violent crime, has skyrocketed across the country, and it has become apparent that we need to equip our law enforcement partners with adequate funding so that they can fulfill their duties of combating crime and protecting our neighborhoods and communities. SAPP funding was established in the 1980s to increase and supplement resources for police protection expenditures in our local communities. The legislation changes the funding formula to allow for a permanent 50% increase in funding. This increase in SAPP funding will benefit all jurisdictions in the state, including Baltimore City, who historically has not received this funding due to previous mutual agreements on state support. Eligible uses for SAPP funding include salaries and wages, capital outlay, debt service, and numerous other expenditures related to operating expenses, such as communications and contractual services. This allows the police to focus on activities directly connected with the detection and prevention of crime. Additional funding will allow our police agencies to focus on reducing crime, advancing public safety initiatives, and strengthening relationships with the communities.

Creation of the Local Law Enforcement Coordination Council, and the accompanying coordinator position, will help ensure that our local law enforcement agencies are able to work collaboratively on public safety issues and solutions, and give them the opportunity to better share data, identify best practices, and track data to ensure uniform training is occurring. This initiative will enable the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association to further expand operational training and support.

The Hogan administration takes the safety and protection of Marylanders very seriously, and this bill will help protect our communities and citizens.

For these reasons, the Administration respectfully requests a favorable report on Senate Bill 397.