



BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



Brandon M. Scott
Mayor

Michael S. Harrison
Police Commissioner

TO: The Honorable Members of the House Judiciary Committee

FROM: Michelle Wirzberger, Esq., Director of Government Affairs, Baltimore Police Dept.

RE: House Bill 441 Criminal Procedure – Pretrial Release of Defendant – Notice

DATE: February 8, 2022

POSITION: SUPPORT

Chair Clippinger, Vice-Chair Moon, and members of the Committee, please be advised that the Baltimore Police Department **supports** House Bill 441.

House Bill 441 requires the Court and the Office of the State’s Attorney to notify the arresting law enforcement agency if a suspect charged with murder in the first or second degree, attempted murder in the first or second degree, robbery with a dangerous weapon, or armed carjacking, has been released prior to trial.

This bill will enhance vital communication between the Court and the Office of the State’s Attorney and enable law enforcement to better protect victims, witnesses and residents when alleged violent offenders reenter communities. This notification will also prompt law enforcement to monitor open sources to learn of any planned retaliation so they can develop a deployment plan designed to safeguard the offender and any innocent bystanders who may be at risk.

Therefore, the Baltimore Police Department respectfully requests a **favorable** report on House Bill 441.