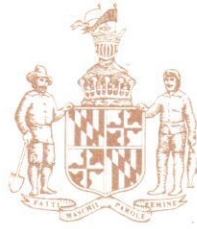


CARL ANDERTON, JR.
Legislative District 38B
Wicomico County

Environment and Transportation
Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 16, 2022

Chairman Luke Clippinger
Judiciary Committee
101 House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: HB1207- Public Safety - Body-Worn Cameras - Costs and Expenses

Dear Chairman Clippinger,

As we know, the Maryland Police Accountability Act of 2021, requires certain law enforcement agencies to use body-worn cameras by July 1, 2023.

Local police departments across the state are now burdened with an additional operating cost. According to a 2021 study from Energetics Technology Center, the average annual contract cost of a body worn camera program in Maryland, including support personnel costs was \$2445 per officer per camera. This could result in a statewide total cost of up to \$32,415,820, including municipalities. This would be a \$32 million unfunded mandate on our law enforcement agencies.

HB1207 would require the State to fund these changes and assist smaller, rural police departments, with costs associated with implementing body worn cameras and other mandates are crippling their budgets.

I respectfully ask the committee for a favorable report on HB1207- Public Safety - Body-Worn Cameras - Costs and Expenses. Thank you for your consideration and please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Carl Anderton Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

Delegate Carl Anderton Jr., District 38B