COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY

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E, THOMAS MERRYWEATHER COUNTY ATTORNEY

The Honorable Luke Clippinger, Delegate Judiciary Committee Room 110, House Office Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Letter of Support for House Bill 1456 Entitled "Dorchester County-Orphans Court-Salary and Expense Allowance of Orphans' Court Judges"

Dear Delegate Clippinger, Chair and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Dorchester County Council, I respectfully offer its support for House Bill 1456 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 House Bill 1456. 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

Newbork

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