



## GOVERNOR'S COORDINATING OFFICES

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February 8, 2022

Chair Luke Clippinger  
Judiciary Committee  
Room 101  
House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: HB 411 - Public Safety – Local Law Enforcement Coordination Council and Coordinator and State Aid for Police Protection Fund**

**POSITION: Support**

Dear Chair Clippinger and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services (Office) is providing this letter of support for House Bill 411: Public Safety – Local Law Enforcement Coordination Council and Coordinator and State Aid for Police Protection Fund.

This legislation alters the calculation of grants payable to certain local governments under the State Aid for Police Protection Fund by increasing the amount for the State to pay to each county. State Aid for Police Protection (SAPP) was created as a line budget item in the 1980s, along with several other grants, to be treated as a general revenue. SAPP is a formula-driven funding program used to supplement resources for police protection in our local communities. State funds provide additional revenue to support the operational costs of local and county police agencies. Funds are distributed based on a formula derived through a subdivision's population, number of police officers in the agency, and the total jurisdictional taxable income. Annual fund distributions are calculated according to the previous year's operations costs.

The new statutory figure from HB 411 would be \$8.96 per person from the original \$2.50 figure and to Baltimore City, \$0.50 per person; and to each county that borders the District of Columbia, in addition to the \$8.96 amount required, \$0.50 per person living in the county within 1 mile of the border between the State and the District of Columbia. The State would allocate the supplemental grant on a per person basis

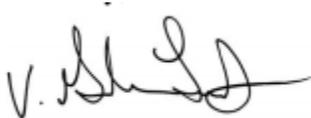
For all inquiries, please contact  
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among the county and the qualifying municipalities in that county and distribute the resulting allocation to each county and qualifying municipality. In addition to the payments referenced above, each fiscal year, the State shall pay to each qualifying municipality, \$2,925 (formerly \$1,950) for each sworn officer actually employed on a full-time basis by the qualifying municipality, as determined by the Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services. In addition, the City of Baltimore would receive a \$8,000,000 grant for police efforts as well.

This is part of the Governor's expanded Re-Fund The Police Initiative, a three-year, \$500 million investment in increased support for law enforcement, and for increased crime control and victim protection services across the state. The \$137 million in that initiative for a 50% increase in state police aid to local jurisdictions statewide is the State Aid for Police Protection Fund mentioned above. As the State Agency who allocates SAPP funding, The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services works to promote criminal justice strategies and programs that advance public policy, enhance public safety, reduce crime and juvenile delinquency, and serve victims. This funding supports that mission and with the passing of this legislation, our local law enforcement agencies receive the aid they need to do their jobs more effectively and promote a safer Maryland.

For these reasons, the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services supports House Bill 411 and urges a favorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V. Glenn Fueston, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

V. Glenn Fueston, Jr.  
Executive Director  
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services