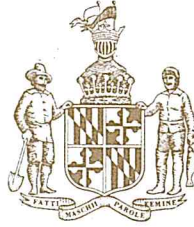


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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
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TESTIMONY – SENATE BILL 156

***PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY – PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
REENTRY EMPLOYMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM – FUNDING***

BUDGET & TAXATION COMMITTEE

JANUARY 25, 2023

Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and Fellow Committee Members:

Senate Bill 156 is a very straightforward bill that simply requires the Governor to appropriate \$500,000 in fiscal years 2025 through 2028 to Prince George's County to provide matching funds for the Prince George's County Reentry Employment Incentive Program.

This is a simple piece of legislation that helps to ensure the success of this important program. Prince George's County has the second-highest number of citizens returning from incarceration in the State of Maryland. The funding of this program has proven an invaluable asset in helping to reduce rates of recidivism and given these returning citizens a promising path back into society. This legislation has clearly created a positive overall economic impact and measurable social benefits for the county as a whole.

For the reasons listed above, I ask for a favorable report of Senate Bill 156.