

Honorable Guy Guzzone Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee 3 West, Miller Senate Office Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Mount Aviat Academy would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses, and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

As a beneficiary of the Community Safety Works program, Mount Aviat has been able to add numerous auto and pedestrian improvements to the dangerous roadway on which our school is situated. With over 240 students ranging in age from 3 to 14, as well as their families, entering and leaving the school grounds each day, auto and pedestrian safety was a real issue. In addition, Mount Aviat hosts several large-scale community events each year bringing even more visitors to the area. Our school and the surrounding area are now noticeably more secure and welcoming.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sister John Elizabeth Callaghan, OSFS Principal