



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

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February 28, 2023

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Yeshivas Toras Simcha] 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.

Last year, this funding enabled us to install an egress window. The egress window to a basement classroom provided a much need second path of egress for our students in the event that the stairwell was inaccessible due to a fire. The safety of our students is of great importance to us and we are grateful that these funds helped ensure that safety.

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

Sincerely,

**Rabbi David Kapenstein**  
Director of Development