



Maryland Municipal League
The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

January 19, 2023

Committee: Senate Budget and Taxation

Bill: SB 105 - Law Enforcement Officers - Compensation and Benefits - Study

Position: Support

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League supports Senate Bill 105, which we expect to provide valuable information that will lead to municipal police agencies recruiting and retaining top quality police officers. The bill tasks the State with conducting a study of the compensation and benefits of law enforcement officers in the State and publishing a report on the findings.

There are 89 municipal police agencies in Maryland and at some point there have been challenges with police officer recruitment and retention in every part of the State; this problem seems to be particularly pervasive at the moment. As the costs and risks to operate a police agency continue to rise, the issue of officer compensation is of the utmost importance; both in terms of running an efficient and effective municipal public safety program but also finding and developing the right officers.

The study outlined in SB 105 is an appropriate vehicle to provide much needed information on police officer compensation that municipal police agencies can use to continue providing critical public safety services. For these reasons the League respectfully requests that this committee provide House Bill 105 with a favorable report.

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