

SB 428 Sen Corderman Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Paul Corderman

Position: FAV

PAUL D. CORDERMAN
Legislative District 2
Frederick and Washington Counties

Budget and Taxation Committee

Subcommittees

Capital Budget

Education, Business and Administration



James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street, Room 403
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3903 · 301-858-3903
800-492-7122 Ext. 3903
Paul.Corderman@senate.state.md.us

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 21, 2023

Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
Chairman Will Smith
Vice Chair Jeff Waldstreicher
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill SB 428 – Washington County – Deputy Sheriffs and Correctional Deputies – Employment Conditions & Collective Bargaining

Chairman Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, & Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to present SB 428 this afternoon. As the state of Maryland continues to improve police/public relations, it is important that we recruit and retain professional and competent men and women to serve our communities. In an effort to increase morale and include both public safety and corrections employees in the discussion surrounding benefits and compensation, we are presenting this bill, which would afford Patrol Deputies (sworn Law Officers) and Correctional Deputies the opportunity to participate in collective bargaining. This bill is supported unanimously by the Washington County Board of County Commissioners, as well as the National Correctional Employees Union.

Thank you for your consideration and I respectfully ask for a favorable report on SB 428.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "P.D. Corderman".

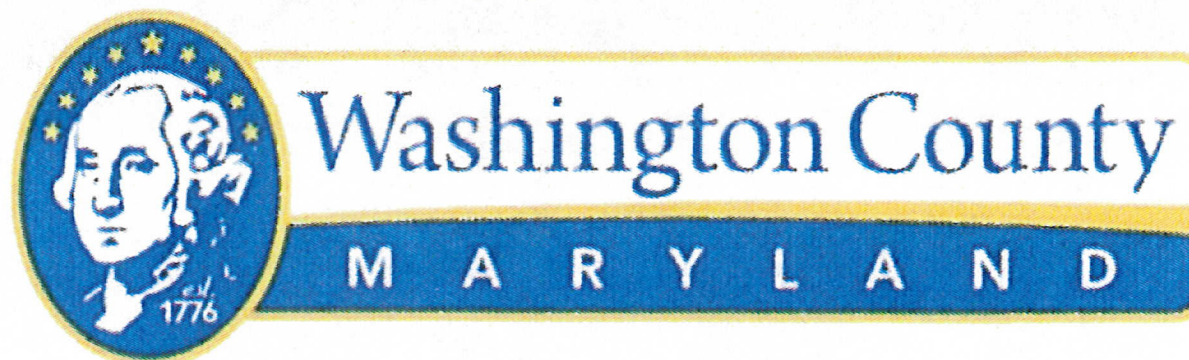
Paul D. Corderman
District 2 – Washington & Frederick Counties

SB 428 Wash Co Commissioners LOS.pdf

Uploaded by: Paul Corderman

Position: FAV

John F. Barr, *President*
Jeffrey A. Cline, *Vice President*



Derek Harvey
Wayne K. Keefer
Randall E. Wagner

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND**

February 3, 2023

Senator William C. Smith, Jr., Chair
Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: - Senate Bill 428; Washington County-Deputy Sheriffs and Correction Deputies-
Employment Conditions and Collective Bargaining: SUPPORT

Dear Senator Smith:

By a vote of 5-0, the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County unanimously supports Senate Bill 428. SB 428 would alter the grounds on which a deputy sheriff with the rank of major or below, in Washington County, may be discharged after two years of continuous employment; provides that a special deputy sheriff in Washington County is not a State employee for certain reasons; and authorizes sworn deputy sheriffs at the rank of sergeant and below and correctional deputies at the rank of sergeant and below to engage in collective bargaining with the Washington County Sheriff and the County Administrator.


This bill updates certain terminology to comply with changes in State law as a result of the Police Accountability Act. The bill also authorizes the Sheriff and County to engage in collective bargaining with sworn deputies and correctional officers. Collective bargaining would not occur unless the sworn deputies and/or correctional officers of certain ranks asked to be recognized as a collective bargaining unit. The bill defines the issues that could be the subject of the collective bargaining negotiations.

For these reasons, the Board of County Commissioners urges the Committee to approve SB 428.

Senator William C. Smith, Jr., Chair
Judicial Proceedings Committee
February 3, 2023
Page 2

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: 
John F. Barr, President

cc (via email): Senator Paul D. Corderman
Senator Mike McKay

SB 428 Wash Co Delegation LOS.pdf

Uploaded by: Paul Corderman

Position: FAV

DELEGATE WILLIAM J. WIVELL
CHAIR
SENATOR MIKE W. MCKAY
VICE-CHAIR



SENATOR PAUL D. CORDERMAN

DELEGATE TERRY BAKER
DELEGATE BROOKE GROSSMAN
DELEGATE WILLIAM VALENTINE

THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401
WASHINGTON COUNTY DELEGATION

February 9th, 2023

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr.
Miller Senate Office Building 2 East
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chairman Smith,

The Washington County Delegation voted unanimously to support "SB0428 (HB0637) Washington County - Deputy Sheriffs and Correctional Deputies - Employment Conditions and Collective Bargaining". We respectfully request your support of this bill as amended.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me by email at William.Wivell@house.state.md.us, or by phone at 410-841-3447.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. Wivell".

William Wivell, Chair
Washington County Delegation

2023-02-20--SB0428 - NCEU--Ltr of Support.pdf

Uploaded by: William Doyle

Position: FAV



NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL EMPLOYEES UNION

30 North King Street, Northampton, MA 01060

February 20, 2023,

Dear Chairman William Smith Jr., Vice Chairman Jeff Waldstreicher, and Distinguished Members Jill Carter, William Folden, Mary-Dulany James, Mike McKay, Anthony Muse, Charles Sydnor III, Alonzo Washington, and Chris West of the Maryland Judicial Proceedings Committee;

On behalf of the National Correctional Employees Union (NCEU), I write with respect to pending legislation (SB0428) which would permit collective bargaining for sheriff's deputies working at the prison in Washington County, Maryland.

Please know the National Correctional Employees Union (NCEU) is the exclusive bargaining representative for correctional personnel in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, New York and Pennsylvania. Recently, the NCEU was contacted by the detention center deputy sheriff's from the Washington County Prison in Hagerstown, MD desiring to organize for collective bargaining. After talking with the group and holding meetings for the purposes of providing information, the NCEU filed a certification petition with the Washington County Board of Commissioners, in accordance with their rules. The NCEU obtained a "showing of interest" of approximately eighty percent (80%) of interested staff desiring to be unionized. The County Commissioners, by and through their County Attorney, sent a letter explaining that under Maryland Code, Courts and Judicial Proceedings, Subsection 2-335, "*The Maryland General Assembly has not granted authority to the Washington County Sheriff to engage in collective bargaining.*"

As of the date of this letter, the hard working men and women of Washington County Sheriff's Office and Prison desire the ability to unionize and collectively bargain with their employer. The submitted legislation before you, with the support of the newly elected Sheriff Brian Albert and current County Commissioners by way of a unanimous vote, would allow for the sheriff's department personnel to unionize and bargain collectively.

The NCEU is in full support of the proposed legislation and urges you to take the necessary steps to pass said legislation. The ability to collectively bargain for wages, benefits, and working conditions is critical for the men and women of the Washington County Sheriff's Office and Detention Center who work each day under difficult and highly stressful conditions to ensure that our communities are safe and the prison is secure.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter and please do not hesitate to contact me directly with any questions.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christopher Murphy".

Christopher Murphy, President

National Correctional Employees Union

Office: 413-788-6238

Fax: 413-273-1023

www.nceu.org