



Sheriff Brian K. Albert
Washington County
Sheriff's Office
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February 15, 2023

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

Delegate Luke Clippinger
House Judiciary Committee
Room 101
House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Support for SB0532 / HB0667

Dear Senator Smith and Delegate Clippinger:

As Sheriff of Washington County, I am writing to express my support for Senate Bill 532 / House Bill 667, which would provide for referral to the Drug Court, or otherwise prosecution of persons who overdose in a public place. As you are well aware, abuse of opiates and other controlled substances has become a plague upon society across Maryland. Combatting this plague has proved stubbornly complicated, and it will obviously evade any single approach. However, SB0532/HB0667 provides one simple approach which may assist *some* addicted persons who are willing to avail themselves of treatment when they are coaxed to do so by judicial means.

For these reasons, I would urge a favorable report and passage of SB0532/HB0667.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheriff Brian K. Albert".

Brian K. Albert, Sheriff