CORY V. McCray Legislative District 45 Baltimore City

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Legislative Policy Committee

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James Senate Office Building 11 Bladen Street, Room 221 Annapolis, Maryland 21401 410-841-3165 · 301-858-3165 800-492-7122 Ext. 3165 Cory.McCray@senate.state.md.us

Vote Yes on Senate Bill 486

Bill Title: Baltimore City Sheriff- Staffing Hearing Date: March 30, 2023, Judiciary Committee

Greetings, Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee

Today, I respectfully ask for your support in approving Senate Bill 486. Senate Bill 486 enhances the number of positions available at the Baltimore City Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's Office of Baltimore has a history of leadership, conflict resolution, authority, and devotion to our city. For 178 years member of the Sheriff's office has done their due diligence in upkeeping the peace of Baltimore, Maryland. In honor of their hard work, I request that we assist them in revising their system.

Upon request, SB486 will grant the necessary funding to expand the Sheriff's Office. With the execution of Senate Bill 486, the proper size of staff will be directed by the Sheriff.

Currently, the Sheriff's Office has two Assistant Sheriff positions in place. It is essential to expand those positions to provide more efficiency within the Office. We ask for approval of adding two more command-level superiors to manage the Sheriff's Office. In

approving Senate Bill 486 the Sheriff's Office will have the ability to obtain a larger role in service to Baltimore city.

If passed Senate Bill 486 will administer social workers to connect tenants facing eviction with services. This program doesn't exist in the office currently, but with additional workers, the implementation of this new process will benefit all. There will be designated personnel conducting evictions to provide connections to the emergency placement and rehousing services. In the event of an eviction, having a social worker present increases the likelihood of an organized and smooth process for families.

Among other things, social workers provide a sense of empathy that is critical for unforeseen circumstances like that.

For these reasons, I humbly request your support in approving Senate Bill 486.

Respectfully,

Cory V. McCray 45th District