



CITY OF CUMBERLAND MARYLAND

Delegate Luke Clippinger, *Chair*
House Ways & Means Committee
6 Bladen Street, Room 101
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: House Bill 518/ Senate Bill 409: Police Accountability Boards and Administrative Charging Committees - Municipal Corporations - SUPPORT

February 21, 2023

Dear Chairman Clippinger and the Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

On behalf of the City of Cumberland, I write to you in support of House Bill 518/SB409, entitled: *Police Accountability Boards and Administrative Charging Committees - Municipal Corporations*.

As written, HB518/SB 409 would authorize municipalities, in Maryland, to create Police Accountability Boards to receive complaints of police misconduct from the general public. In addition, the legislation would allow a municipal corporation to establish an administrative charging committee to serve law enforcement agencies in the municipal corporation.

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Under current law, counties are required to establish Police Accountability Boards and Administrative Charging Committees that oversee the complaint procedure against all local police officers in the county – this also extends to municipal officers. Currently, the law only provides counties with the authority to create these boards and committees.

We believe that if a municipality wants to establish its own police accountability board and administrative charging committee, they should have the same ability and discretion as the counties. For these reasons, the City of Cumberland supports this legislation and respectfully requests this committee to give a FAVORABLE report to HB518/SB 409.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Mayor Raymond Morriss
City of Cumberland



MEMBER MARYLAND
MUNICIPAL LEAGUE (MML)

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