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February 21, 2023

HB 682 - Public Safety – Law Enforcement Agencies – Positive Community Feedback

Dear Chairman Clippinger and Distinguished Members of the Judiciary Committee,

The Maryland State Fraternal Order of Police **SUPPORTS House Bill 682 - Public Safety – Law Enforcement Agencies – Positive Community Feedback.**

This bill will require the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission to develop a uniform citizen positive community feedback process and further require that each law enforcement agency shall adopt this process and maintain a record of positive community feedback for all law enforcement officers within the agency. These records would be subject to public inspection in accordance with the Maryland Public Information Act.

Over the last few years of police reform, a lot has been done to make the filing of complaints easier, and the inspection of records related to those complaints open to public inspection. HB 682 would allow for the same to occur for positive feedback that a citizen would like to share about an officer. This would make for a more accurate picture to be realized of an officer. We currently are in a time where officers are leaving the profession in record numbers as many feel they are not supported by the public. This would allow members of the public to express positive feedback. A **FAVORABLE** vote on **HB 682** will send a positive and powerful message to police officers in the State.

On behalf of the more than 20,000 Courageous Men and Women of the Maryland Fraternal Order of Police we thank you for your support and ask for your **FAVORABLE** vote on **House Bill 682 - Public Safety – Law Enforcement Agencies – Positive Community Feedback.**

Angelo L. Consoli Jr,
2nd Vice President, FOP, Maryland State Lodge
President, FOP Lodge 89, Prince George's County