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February 15, 2023

TO: The Honorable Luke Clippinger

Chair, Judiciary Committee

FROM: Hannibal G. Williams II Kemerer

Chief Counsel, Legislative Affairs, Office of the Attorney General

RE: HB0589 – Public safety – Handgun Permits – Expiration and Renewal

Periods for Retired Law Enforcement Officer (Support)

House Bill 589 amends Section 5-309 of the Public Safety Article to extend from two years to seven years the first renewal period for a wear, carry, and transport permit in the case of retired law enforcement officers who retired in good standing from service with a law enforcement agency of the State or a county or municipal corporation of the State. Thereafter, retired law enforcement officers would need to renew their licenses every five years, as opposed to every three years for others.

The Office of the Attorney General supports the provision of longer licensure periods for retired law enforcement officers given the amount of continuous training such individuals have during their professional tenure.

We urge a favorable report on HB 589.

cc: Committee Members

This bill letter is a statement of the Office of Attorney General's policy position on the referenced pending legislation. For a legal or constitutional analysis of the bill, Members of the House and Senate should consult with the Counsel to the General Assembly, Sandy Brantley. She can be reached at 410-946-5600 or sbrantley@oag.state.md.us