



Maryland Municipal League
The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

February 1, 2024

Committee: Senate Judicial Proceedings

Bill: SB 380 – Police Recruitment and Retention Workgroup

Position: Support

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League supports Senate Bill 380, which establishes a Police Recruitment and Retention Workgroup to address the significant recruitment challenges and the decline in police officer retention statewide.

More than half of our municipal members (89 out of 160 MML members) have police departments. Police officer recruitment and retention has impacted every one of them, especially in the last few years. As the costs and risks to operate a police agency continue to rise, the issue of officer compensation is of the utmost importance; both in terms of running an efficient and effective municipal public safety program but also finding and developing the right officers.

The workgroup established in SB 380 is an appropriate vehicle to provide much needed information on policies and trends that municipal police agencies can use to continue providing critical public safety services. For these reasons, the League respectfully requests that this committee provide a favorable report on Senate Bill 380.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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