



**Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Office of Government & Legislative Affairs**

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BILL: HOUSE BILL 565

POSITION: LETTER OF INFORMATION

EXPLANATION: This bill establishes the Maryland Deaths In Custody Oversight Board within the Office of Crime Prevention, Youth and Victim Services for the purpose of conducting administrative and clinical mortality review for every death of an incarcerated individual in the State.

COMMENTS:

- The Maryland Death In Custody Oversight Board will be responsible for administrative and clinical mortality reviews of every death of an incarcerated individual, provide analysis and develop recommendations for facilities to prevent future deaths and improve care.
- The Senate crossfile (SB36) passed Favorable with Amendments. The bill as amended requires the Maryland State Police to investigate any death of an incarcerated individual suspected to be a homicide that occurs while the individual is in the custody of the Division of Correction and report the numbers on their website.
- The Department would like to see HB 565 conform to the Senate crossfile.

CONCLUSION: The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services respectfully requests the Committee consider this information when deliberating on House Bill 565.