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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
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FAVORABLE – HB315

January 31, 2024

Chair Clippinger and Members of the House Judiciary Committee

In 2023 with the passage of HB824, an amendment introduced very late in session passed on third reader to mandate the Maryland State Commission on Criminal Sentencing Policy (“the Commission”) the task of collecting and compiling certain data with respect to gun crimes. The Commission did not have an opportunity to weigh in on the amendment and let the General Assembly know that this is not the type of data the Commission usually gathers. Dr. David Soulé, Executive Director of the Commission explains so in his written informational testimony.

It is also not the general data the Maryland State Police gathers either. Testimony to that effect has been provided as well. Ultimately, we have learned, that the task falls within the realm of the Maryland Judiciary. I requested the drafting of an Amendment to remove the Maryland State Police from the task in HB315 and give it to the Maryland Judiciary. The Judiciary has confirmed that the data requested is exactly the type of information they collect.

Accordingly, I request a favorable report on HB315 with amendment.