



## Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

### Office of Government & Legislative Affairs

45 Calvert Street, Suite 7A, Annapolis, MD 21401  
(443) 240-8696 • [www.dpscs.maryland.gov](http://www.dpscs.maryland.gov)

STATE OF MARYLAND

WES MOORE  
GOVERNOR

ARUNA MILLER  
LT. GOVERNOR

CAROLYN J. SCRUGGS  
ACTING SECRETARY

JOSEPH SEDTAL  
DEPUTY SECRETARY  
ADMINISTRATION

ANNIE D. HARVEY  
DEPUTY SECRETARY  
OPERATIONS

ANGELINA GUARINO  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
DATA, POLICY AND GRANTS

RENARD BROOKS  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
PROGRAMS, TREATMENT AND  
REENTRY SERVICES

JANELLE B. MUMMEY  
DIRECTOR

**BILL: HOUSE BILL 61**

**POSITION: LETTER OF INFORMATION**

**EXPLANATION:** House Bill 61 will require the Division of Correction to establish a program in a facility located in Prince George's County that will provide formerly incarcerated individuals and individuals on probation with a full range of services, including but not limited to, counseling, legal, employment assistance, transportation assistance, housing assistance, medical information, and assistance in obtaining documents, such as State ID, a Social Security card and birth certificate

#### **COMMENTS:**

- The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services' (Department) Division of Correction operates 13 State correctional facilities housing offenders sentenced to periods of incarceration for 18 months and longer. The Department also oversees five facilities located in Baltimore City that houses pretrial detainees and incarcerated individuals sentenced to incarceration for periods of 18 months and less.
- The Department provides robust reentry services to incarcerated individuals for a successful return home after incarceration. The Department's Reentry and Transition Services Unit is responsible for the coordinated development and implementation of programs and services that will prepare incarcerated individuals for release. The Unit works closely with case management and reentry specialists to develop and support an incarcerated individual's rehabilitative efforts.
- Reentry services provided include medicaid enrollment, identification assistance, including birth certificates, social security and MVA identification cards, community and behavioral health referrals, housing assistance, employment & career placement services, financial literacy training, social security and veteran services.

- The Department works in partnership with the Prince George's County State's Attorney office with an Emerging Adults Youth Program. This program focuses on individuals 18-26 who are currently incarcerated and continues through probation. The program provides vital reentry programs to include counseling, job training and work programs.
- Within Prince George's County, the Returning Affairs Division provides services and opportunities for formerly incarcerated individuals for a successful transition into the community.
- There is also a Reentry Advisory Board in Prince George's County that determine, evaluate, implement a comprehensive Re-Entry Program and re-entry services in the County to service formerly incarcerated persons attempting to acclimate back into society.
- Since the Division of Correction does not have a facility in Prince George's County, there will be a substantial fiscal impact in order to identify a location and space. There will be construction and other associated costs to make the space operational. In addition, there will be annual leasing costs for the office space, and appropriate staffing will be required to perform services that are already being provided in the County.

**CONCLUSION:** The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services respectfully requests the Committee consider this information as it deliberates House Bill 61.