



Maryland Chiefs of Police Association

Maryland Sheriffs' Association



MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Luke Clippinger, Chair and
Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Darren Popkin, Executive Director, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee
Andrea Mansfield, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee
Natasha Mehu, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee

DATE: January 23, 2024

RE: **HB 6 – Public Safety – Law Enforcement – Quotas (Community-Oriented Policing Act)**

POSITION: OPPOSE

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) OPPOSE HB 6. This bill prohibits a law enforcement agency from (1) establishing or maintaining a formal or informal quota for the law enforcement agencies or officers or (2) use the number of arrests made, investigations conducted, citations issued, or warrants served by a law enforcement officer as a criterion for evaluation, compensation, discipline, promotion, demotion, dismissal, or transfer of the officer.

Under current law, a law enforcement agency is prohibited from using quotas and the number of arrests made or citations issued as the sole or primary criterion for promotion, demotion, dismissal, or transfer of an officer. MCPA and MSA believe current statute sufficiently addresses any issues the sponsor of HB 6 may have in terms of personnel matters.

Part of an officer's routine duties is to make arrests, conduct investigations, issue citations, and issue warrants. To not use this information as a measurable aspect of an officer's performance review would not satisfactorily assess the officer's job performance and effect an agency's ability work with officers to improve their performance. Just as with other occupations, employees should be evaluated based on the work they perform, not some arbitrary measures.

For this reason, MCPA and MSA OPPOSE HB 6 and urge an UNFAVORABLE Committee report.