

BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



Brandon M. Scott Mayor

Richard J. Worley Police Commissioner

| TO: | The Honorable Members of the Budget & Taxation Committee |
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| FROM: | Erin C. Murphy, Director of Government Affairs, Baltimore Police Dept. |
| RE: | Senate Bill 341- Baltimore City- Raffles- Organizations Affiliated with a Professional Major League Baseball Team |
| DATE: | January 29, 2025 |

POSITION: SUPPORT

Chair Guzzone, Vice-Chair Rosapepe, and members of the Committee, please be advised that the Baltimore Police Department **supports** Senate Bill 341.

This bill creates a special exception for organizations affiliated with a professional Major League Baseball team playing home games in Baltimore City to conduct raffles with unique provisions. The bill allows these organizations to obtain a permit from a designated Baltimore City agency to hold raffles in conjunction with baseball games, with no limit on the number of raffles they can conduct during a single season. Raffle tickets can only be sold and received electronically within Baltimore City's geographical boundaries, specifically within one hour before the game starts and until the seventh inning, using geofence technology to ensure location compliance. The permit is valid only for the calendar year in which it is issued, and the organization cannot benefit financially from the raffle or use proceeds for personal use.

Overall, the Baltimore Police Department believes that this bill expands the Baltimore Orioles ability to use funds acquired through the raffle to continue to provide positive impacts to the City and has no operational impact on the Department. Therefore, the Baltimore Police Department respectfully requests a <u>favorable</u> report on Senate Bill 341.