AFSCME Council 3 SB767 Testimony_FAV.pdf Uploaded by: Christian Gobel

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1410 Bush Street (Suite A) Baltimore, MD 21230 Phone: 410-547-1515 Email: info@afscmemd.org

Patrick Moran - President

SB767 – Calvert County Sheriff – Deputy Sheriffs and Correctional Deputies – Collective Bargaining Finance Committee February 20, 2025

FAVORABLE

AFSCME Council 3 supports Senate Bill 767. Senate Bill 767 establishes the right to organize and collectively bargain certain topics for full-time deputy sheriffs and correctional deputies at the rank of major and below with the County Commissioners of Calvert County and the Calvert County Sheriff.

AFSCME Council 3 represents approximately 45,000 public service workers at the state, county, and municipal levels of government across Maryland. Within our membership, we are proud to represent thousands of public safety personnel across Maryland including correctional officers, parole and probation agents, and more. Each day public safety personnel are putting their own safety and health at risk to make our communities safer and ensure that public institutions and facilities operate safely.

AFSCME Council 3 strongly supports all public employees having the freedom to organize and collectively bargain. Dedicated public servants should always have a voice in their workplace on matters impacting their livelihood.

We urge the committee to issue a favorable report of Senate Bill 767.

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MICHAEL A. JACKSON Legislative District 27 Calvert, Charles and Prince George's Counties

Budget and Taxation Committee

Subcommittees

Pensions

Procurement

Chair, Public Safety, Transportation, and Environment



Miller Senate Office Building 11 Bladen Street, Suite 3 West Annapolis, Maryland 21401 410-841-3700 800-492-7122 *Ext.* 3700 Michael.Jackson@senate.state.md.us

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND Annapolis, Maryland 21401

TESTIMONY – SENATE BILL 767

CALVERT COUNTY SHERIFF – DEPUTY SHERIFFS AND CORRECTIONAL DEPUTIES – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

FINANCE COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 20, 2025

Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Hayes, and Finance Committee Members:

Senate Bill 767 is a straightforward piece of legislation that simply provides a very basic means for Calvert County Sheriffs and Correctional Deputies to collectively bargain with the County Sheriff and Calvert County Commissioners in regard to wages and health care coverage.

The legislation would apply to only full-time deputy sheriffs and correctional deputies in the Calvert County Sheriff's Office at the rank of Major or below and any agreements reached between parties would require the ratification of the Sheriff, the County Commissioners, and the exclusive representatives of the officers.

It's a direct piece of legislation that would provide Calvert County law enforcement officers with the same labor protections provided to a myriad of other law enforcement agencies throughout Maryland.

For the reasons listed above, I ask for a favorable report of Senate Bill 767.

CalvertCounty_FAV_AMEND_SB767.pdf Uploaded by: Earl Hance

Position: FWA



CALVERT COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

175 Main Street Prince Frederick, Maryland 20678 410-535-1600 • 301-855-1243 www.calvertcountymd.gov

Board of Commissioners Mark C. Cox Sr. Catherine M. Grasso Earl F. Hance Mike Hart Todd Ireland

February 11, 2025

The Honorable Senator Pamela Beidle, Chair **Finance Committee** 3 East, Miller Senate Office Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: SB767 - Calvert County Sheriff - Deputy Sheriffs and Correctional Deputies - Collective Bargaining

Chair Beidle and Committee Members:

The Board of County Commissioners for Calvert County writes in SUPPORT with AMENDMENT of SB767 and requests FAVORABLE with AMENDMENT Committee report. This draft legislation proposes granting full-time deputy sheriffs and correctional deputies in the Calvert County Sheriff's Office, up to the rank of Major, the right to organize and negotiate with the County Commissioners and the Sheriff concerning wages and benefits. Any agreements reached would be formalized in a memorandum of agreement requiring ratification by the Sheriff, the County Commissioners, and the exclusive representative of the employees.

The deputies, law enforcement and correctional, that would be eligible to negotiate for wages and benefits under this proposed legislation are employees of the Sheriff. Therefore, we request that the County Commissioners be removed from the legislation so that the eligible deputies may negotiate wages and benefits with the Sheriff, as the teachers and support staff unions negotiate with their employer, the local Board of Education. In both of these analogous situations, the county is the source of taxpayer funds, but not the employer.

Your thoughtful consideration of our position on this legislation is sincerely appreciated. Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact County Administrator Julian M. Willis at 410-535-1600, extension 2202, or County Attorney, John Norris at 410-535-1600, extension 2566. Thank you for your kind consideration of our position regarding this important local Bill.

> Sincerely, BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND

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Earl F. Hance, President

Tode Ireland, Vice President

Recuse Mark C. Cox Sr.

Catherine M.

Catherine M. Grasso

Recuse Mike Hart

cc: Senator Michael A. Jackson, Sponsor Calvert County Senators and Delegation