

SB 84 Sen Corderman Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Paul Corderman

Position: FAV

PAUL D. CORDERMAN
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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

January 28, 2025

Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
Chair Will Smith
Vice Chair Jeff Waldstreicher
2 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill SB 84 – Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services – Study on Location of Individuals Prior to and Following Incarceration

Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, & Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to present SB 84. As of 2024, there were 16,124 individuals incarcerated in Maryland Correctional Facilities across the state. At that time, three Correctional facilities in Washington County housed over 4,600 of these individuals, nearly 29%. While there are many schools of thought regarding reentry and recidivism, we can all agree that finding the best and most successful path forward for these individuals is something for which we should strive.

SB 84 requires the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to conduct an annual study that examines and compares certain data regarding an individual's residence prior to incarceration and on release from a State Correctional Facility. While we collectively strive to set these individuals up for a better life and future, it is important that we understand more about the entry and reentry process of our correctional facilities throughout the State.

Thank you for your consideration as I respectfully ask for a favorable report on SB 84.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Paul D. Corderman'.

Paul D. Corderman
District 2 – Washington & Frederick Counties

Testimony in support of SB0084 - Dept of Public Sa

Uploaded by: Richard KAP Kaplowitz

Position: FAV

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01/28/2025

Richard Keith Kaplowitz
Frederick, MD 21703-7134

TESTIMONY ON SB#0084 - POSITION: FAVORABLE
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services - Study on Location of Individuals
Prior to and Following Incarceration

TO: Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of/ SB#/0084, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services - Study on Location of Individuals Prior to and Following Incarceration

There is a crisis in communities across Maryland. We know, from crime statistics, where incarcerated individuals were found when committing the crime. But we do not have statistics to match the need to rehabilitate and provide the transitional services in an effective and efficient manner to formerly incarcerated individuals.

A study by the University of Chicago Kreisman Initiative for Housing Law and Policy complete 2/6/2024 found:

“The lack of stable housing for formerly incarcerated individuals often creates an insurmountable hole in their journey towards reintegration, severely hindering their access to essential services such as healthcare and employment.”¹

The Maryland Alliance for Justice Reform examined the problem in 2024.² The intent of this bill is to provide the data needed to develop solutions to the problems discussed. Without the full identification of where we have a need to address we are blindly going on guesswork.

This bill will require the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to conduct an annual study examining and comparing certain data regarding an individual's residence prior to incarceration and on release from a State correctional facility. It mandates that the Department, by October 1, 2026, and each October 1 thereafter, to report the results of the study to certain committees of the General Assembly. This data collection is vital if we are to make the best possible decisions on what needs to be done to resolve issues about incarceration before and after a crime has occurred.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on SB0084.

¹ <https://kreismaninitiative.uchicago.edu/2024/02/06/harper-locked-out-left-behind/#:~:text=The%20lack%20of%20stable%20housing,such%20as%20healthcare%20and%20employment.>

² <https://www.ma4jr.org/housing/>

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Uploaded by: Christopher Thoms

Position: INFO



Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Office of the Secretary

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BILL: SENATE BILL 84

POSITION: LETTER OF INFORMATION

EXPLANATION: Senate Bill 84 will require the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to conduct a study on the location of individuals before and following incarceration in a State correctional facility. The study shall include data on an individual's residence prior to incarceration compared with their home plan county at release from the DOC.

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.
- A report may be generated, however, it is important to note the data points being requested are self-reported by the individual and may be inaccurate or the individual may decline to provide the information. As such, the data of the report may not be reliable and incomplete information will result in null fields and not be a clear representation.
- In addition, release home plans are only required for individuals being released on Parole and Mandatory Supervision, so home plans are not available for all releases. As such, the report will not include all releases.

CONCLUSION: The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services respectfully requests the Committee consider this information as it deliberates Senate Bill 84.

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