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March 5, 2025

The Honorable Luke Clippinger
Chairman, Judiciary Committee
Maryland House of Delegates
100 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: HB 1401

Dear Chairman Clippinger:

I write in support of HB 1401.

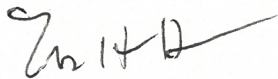
This bill seeks to address the public nuisance created by large-scale, for-profit, parties or events in Calvert County neighborhoods.

Typically, what happens is this. An event organizer (usually not known or identified) decides to hold a party or event at a vacant or rental property in a residential neighborhood. The organizer advertises the party on social media. Tickets are sold. The homeowner does not know about it. People come from far and wide. There are noise problems. There are traffic problems. Neighbors are upset and expect County officials to do something about it.

Unfortunately, existing laws do not adequately address the problem. For example, the criminal statute dealing with common nuisance (CR 5-605) pertains only to CDS violations and requires "recurring activity." These large-scale, for-profit, parties are one and done.

I urge a favorable report on HB 1401.

Sincerely,



Robert H. Harvey, Jr.
State's Attorney