

CHARLOTTE A. CRUTCHFIELD, ESQ.
Legislative District 19
Montgomery County

DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

Judiciary Committee

Subcommittees

Chair, Family and Juvenile Law

Public Safety



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 403
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3485 · 301-858-3485
800-492-7122 Ext. 3485
Charlotte.Crutchfield@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 13, 2025

The House Judiciary Committee
The Honorable Luke Clippinger
6 Bladen Street,
House Office Building, Room 101
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: House Bill 533: Peace Orders and Protective Orders-Military Protection Orders

Dear Chairman Clippinger and Members of the Committee

For victims of abuse, harassment and threats who were issued a Military Protective Order ("MPO"), HB533 will assist in providing continuity in protection while both on and off military installations by doing two things:

- Maryland judges will be able to consider already existing MPOs when adjudicating cases for temporary relief for victims who have been issued an MPO.
- Civilian law enforcement may report to military law enforcement if there is probable cause to believe that an MPO has been violated.

Military Protective Orders are not enforced or recognized off military installations; therefore, military law enforcement has no enforcement authority over service members' behavior while off military installations and who are under MPOs. However, by allowing for evidence to be introduced that indicates an existing MPO and enhanced communication between military and civilian law enforcement, victims will be given additional continuous protection while both on and off military installations.

I respectfully request your favorable report on HB533.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Crutchfield

Delegate Charlotte Crutchfield