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Mayor Michael O'Connor The City of Frederick 101 N. Court Street Frederick, MD 21704

Feb. 25, 2025

The Honorable Del. Luke Clippinger House of Delegates Maryland General Assembly 100 Taylor House Office Building

Dear Chair Clippinger,

I am writing to express support for House Bill 1222, the Maryland Values Act, which seeks to advance public safety while protecting the values that make our community strong and welcoming. As Mayor of Frederick, I believe it is critical to foster an environment where our police force is trusted, respected, and seen as an important part of the community's well-being.

The City of Frederick is committed to a model of law enforcement that prioritizes community trust and public safety. Our residents expect and deserve a police department that is focused on protecting them from harm and upholding the law without compromising civil liberties.

By supporting measures that ensure our officers are not involved in federal immigration enforcement, we can continue to build strong relationships between law enforcement and the diverse communities we serve. We want to create an environment where our police officers are seen as partners in safety, not as agents of fear.

This bill ensures that local law enforcement remains focused on its primary role—serving and protecting the people of Frederick. It is critical for building trust within the community and ensuring that every individual, regardless of their immigration status, feels safe reporting crimes, seeking help, and participating in the civic life of our city.





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The City of Frederick strives to be a place where all residents can thrive, and this legislation supports that vision by reinforcing the importance of a fair and compassionate law enforcement system. I am proud to support HB 1222, which aligns with our values and commitment to public safety for everyone in our community.

Thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Michael O'Connor

Mayor