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February 18, 2025

TO: The Honorable Luke Clippinger
Chair, Judiciary Committee

FROM: Adam Spangler
Legislative Aide, Legislative Affairs, Office of the Attorney General

RE: House Bill 877 - Prison Education Delivery Reform Commission - Reporting
and Sunset Extension– **Support**

The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) urges the Committee to favorably report on **House Bill 877**. This bill extends the termination date of the Prison Education Delivery Reform Commission by three years from (June 30, 2026, to June 30, 2029). The bill also extends by three years the deadlines by which the commission must submit (1) an interim report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly (from June 1, 2025, to June 1, 2028) and (2) a final report of its findings and recommendations (from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2029). The OAG values its membership on this Task Force and is committed to the importance of producing high-quality work.

As mandated by the passage of House Bill 209/Chapter 945 of 2024, the Commission must among other things: (1) convene an advisory stakeholder group, as specified; (2) work with the advisory stakeholder group, including conducting roundtable discussion forums seeking public input in all geographic regions of the State; (3) develop an education-focused statewide framework of policies to invest in strategies to increase public safety and reduce recidivism of adult offenders, using a data-driven approach.

By extending the deadlines for the Commission, more time will be available to ensure that the Commission is able to carry out its mandated duties and that a quality report is prepared for the General Assembly.

For the above reasons, the Office of the Attorney General requests a favorable report on **House Bill 877**.

This bill letter is a statement of the Office of Attorney General's policy position on the referenced pending legislation. For a legal or constitutional analysis of the bill, Members of the House and Senate should consult with the Counsel to the General Assembly, Sandy Brantley. She can be reached at 410-946-5600 or sbrantley@oag.state.md.us.

cc: The Honorable Delegate Marlon Amprey
Members of the House Judiciary Committee