

## TESTIMONY

February 25, 2025

**Committee:** House Judiciary

Bill: HB 238 - Public Safety - Police Accountability - Time Limit for Filing Administrative

Charges

**Position:** Favorable

## **Reason for Position:**

The Maryland Municipal League (MML) supports House Bill 238, which will assist municipal police agencies more effectively comply with the timelines to conduct an investigation established in law.

There are circumstances when the initial timeline for a law enforcement agency to complete an investigation into officer misconduct and the administrative charging committee's disposition of the case are difficult to meet or would result in conflict with another investigation. The bill and set out two scenarios that are subject to a different start date from when the investigation must conclude: Alleged officer misconduct that does not require review by an administrative charging committee, and alleged officer misconduct that reasonably appears to be subject to criminal investigation.

By providing nuanced timelines for these specific scenarios, law enforcement agencies are more likely to meet deadlines, provide better investigatory evidence, and avoid other legal proceedings.

For these reasons, the League respectfully requests that the Committee provide House Bill 238 with a favorable report. For more information, please contact Angelica Bailey Thupari, Director of Advocacy and Public Affairs, at <a href="mailto:angelicab@mdmunicipal.org">angelicab@mdmunicipal.org</a> or (443) 756-0071. Thank you for your consideration.