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February 24, 2025

The Honorable Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Judiciary Committee
Maryland House of Delegates
100 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: **Letter of Support for House Bill 139** – Public Safety – Police Accountability – Deadline for Completion of Investigation

Dear Chair Clippinger, Vice-Chair Bartlett, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

As Cecil County Executive and a retired law enforcement officer, I am writing to express my strong support for HB 139, which seeks to address investigations into police misconduct taking too long, which is unfair to both the law enforcement officer and to the public. While we should and do strive to hold our police accountable, accountability should come from both sides and it is very difficult for an officer to focus on their duties when investigations and charging decisions are dragged out, causing undue stress and resentment on both the officer and the complainant.

HB 139 rectifies this by requiring investigations and charging decisions to be completed within 366 days of the filing of a complaint by a citizen. It is a fairness and efficiency issue, and this deadline is reasonable and best serves the interests of the officer, the law enforcement agency, local government, and the public.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I urge you to look **favorably** on HB 139.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Streight".

Adam Streight
County Executive