



Maryland Municipal League  
*The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns*

## TESTIMONY

February 25, 2025

**Committee:** House Judiciary

**Bill:** HB 139 - Public Safety - Police Accountability - Deadline for Completion of Investigation

**Position:** Oppose

**Reason for Position:**

The Maryland Municipal League (MML) opposes House Bill 139, which requires the investigating unit of a law enforcement agency to complete its review of a complaint by a member of the public alleging police officer misconduct and forward its investigatory files to the administrative charging committee ("ACC") as soon as possible, but not later than nine months after the filing of a complaint.

Under current law, the process of review by the investigating unit through disposition by the ACC must be completed within one year and one day after the filing of a complaint by a citizen. This length of time is greatly preferred: many local jurisdictions already have significant backlogs and need additional time to complete the process. Reducing the time would mean law enforcement agencies are less likely to meet deadlines, weakening the quality of our investigations, and may increase our involvement with other legal proceedings.

For these reasons, the League respectfully requests that the Committee provide House Bill 139 with an unfavorable report. For more information, please contact Angelica Bailey Thupari, Director of Advocacy and Public Affairs, at [angelicab@mdmunicipal.org](mailto:angelicab@mdmunicipal.org) or (443) 756-0071. Thank you for your consideration.

*The Maryland Municipal League uses its collective voice to advocate, empower and protect the interests of our 160 local governments members and elevates local leadership, delivers impactful solutions for our communities, and builds an inclusive culture for the 2 million Marylanders we serve.*