

I strongly support HB1211 for the following reasons:

1. Enhances School Safety

- Ensures that schools are **aware of potential threats** posed by students involved in serious crimes or gang-related activities.
- Helps prevent **violent incidents** by allowing administrators to take necessary precautions.

2. Improves Communication Between Law Enforcement and Schools

- Creates a **formal reporting process** so that schools, the Maryland Center for School Safety, and the State Board of Education are **informed of student arrests**.
- Prevents **gaps in communication** that could lead to safety risks for students and staff.

3. Supports Early Intervention for At-Risk Students

- Identifies students involved in **criminal activity** early, allowing schools and juvenile services to provide **support, counseling, or intervention programs**.
- Helps prevent students from **repeating offenses** by addressing the root causes of their behavior.

4. Ensures Accountability for Criminal Behavior

- Holds students accountable for **serious offenses**, reinforcing the importance of **law and order within schools**.
- Sends a clear message that **criminal activities have consequences**, even for minors.

5. Aids in Tracking and Addressing Gang Activity

- Gang-related crime is a **serious issue** in some communities, and this bill helps identify students involved in **organized criminal behavior**.
- Allows law enforcement and school officials to **monitor and disrupt gang recruitment efforts** within schools.

6. Improves Decision-Making for School Administrators

- School officials can make **informed disciplinary and safety decisions** when they have access to arrest and disposition records.

- Allows for appropriate **risk assessment** regarding a student's presence on school grounds.

7. Ensures Transparency and Legal Oversight

- Requires the **State's Attorney to report the disposition of the offense**, ensuring that schools know whether the charges were **dropped, resulted in a conviction, or required other legal action**.
- Prevents **miscommunication or false assumptions** about a student's legal status.

Please vote YES/Favorable for HB1211.

Nancy Shih

Howard County