ROBERT G. CASSILLY Harford County Executive



ROBERT S. McCORD Director of Administration

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Delegate Vanessa Atterbeary, Chair Ways and Means Committee 130 Taylor House Office Building 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, Maryland 21401 Delegate Luke Clippinger, Chair Judiciary Committee 100 Taylor House Office Building 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Letter of Support on HB951 - School Systems - Reportable Offenses - Alterations

Dear Chairwoman Atterbeary, Chairman Clippinger and Committee Members,

Over the past year, Harford County has had two high school students arrested and convicted of murdering another student. The students in both cases were known to law enforcement before the horrendous crimes of murder were committed. Two murderers walked the halls of Harford County public schools, and in each instance their violent propensities were known to authorities but not shared with parents or teachers.

House Bill 951 will keep all public schools in Maryland from having to experience the same tragedies. The bill expands the list of reportable offenses to include stalking, sexual offenses related to minors, creating and/or distributing child pornography, threats of violence, and any offense that would be considered a felony if committed by an adult. It also allows the State's Attorney's Office to notify school superintendents if a student is a suspect in an investigation for an act that if committed by an adult would be a felony or crime of violence, regardless of if they are formally charged or not.

It is imperative that law enforcement, schools, and parents have the information and options they need to keep dangerous students apart from their innocent and unsuspecting classmates. I respectfully request that the Ways and Means Committee as well as the Judiciary Committee report favorably on HB951.

Thank you.

Yours truly,

Robert G. Cassilly