



Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center, Inc.
Continuing the Missions of the Stephanie Roper Committee and Foundation, Inc.

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TESTIMONY REGARDING HOUSE BILL 526

Our organization is pleased to endorse this bill. This is a common sense measure attempting to provide a more safe, secure, sane environment in our schools. The secrecy involved in juvenile matters often presents problems that conflict with public safety. The passage of this bill would solve one of those conflicts.

Baltimore

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I'm sure the members of the committee are aware of the recent events that call for this change. Nothing could be more important than safeguarding the children in our public schools. All too often, the safety of students from unruly behavior of juvenile offenders is given short shrift.

Carroll; Howard;

Baltimore Counties

Oakland Manor
5430 Vantage Pt. Rd
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21044

The current definition of "reportable offense" limits the scope of incidents that must be reported to school authorities. By removing the requirement that the offense occurred off school premises and did not occur at a school-sponsored event, Senate Bill 386 ensures that all relevant incidents are reported, regardless of where they take place. This change is essential for maintaining a safe and secure learning environment for our students.

Eastern Shore

Frederick and

Montgomery

Counties

Furthermore, the bill mandates that the Department of Juvenile Services report certain decisions made during an inquiry of a juvenile offender to the local superintendent of schools and the school principal. This increased communication between juvenile services and school authorities will enable schools to take appropriate measures to support and protect their students.

In conclusion, House Bill 526 is a necessary and timely piece of legislation that will help safeguard our students and promote a safer school environment. I urge you to support this bill and ensure its swift passage.

Prince George's

Family

Justice Center

(partnership)

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Western Maryland

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Kurt W. Wolfgang
Executive Director
On Behalf of All Maryland Victims

