



BRANDON M. SCOTT
MAYOR

*Office of Government Relations
88 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401*

HB0503

March 31, 2026

TO: Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Nina Themelis, Director of the Mayor's Office of Government Relations

RE: House Bill 503 - Baltimore City Sheriff's Office - Collective Bargaining - Compensation

POSITION: Favorable

Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee, please be advised that the Baltimore City Administration (BCA) **supports** House Bill (HB) 503.

HB 503 is a reintroduction of HB1091 that was passed by this honorable body during the 2025 Maryland General Assembly session, however, once the bill was passed by the full House of Delegates and crossed over to the Senate, it failed to pass the full Senate before Sine Die.

HB 503 as introduced includes amendments requested by the BCA in the 2025 version of the legislation, which were accepted by the House Delegation last year.

The bill would expand the elements of compensation that the bargaining unit for full-time sworn law enforcement officers and court security officers can collectively bargain with the City and the Sheriff or Sheriff's designee. Current law allows collective bargaining over compensation, but excludes salary, wages, and those benefits determined, offered, administered, controlled, or managed by the City. This legislation is intended to resolve disagreement among the three parties involved in these collective bargaining efforts in future negotiations.

The ability for unions to properly represent their members and bargain on their behalf is of significant importance to Mayor Scott and this legislation will help to clarify what elements can be collectively bargained and which entities are parties to those negotiations.

For the above stated reasons, the BCA respectfully requests a **favorable** report on HB 503.