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Legislative District 22
Prince George's County

Judiciary Committee

Chair, Public Safety Subcommittee

Chair, Prince George's
County House Delegation



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 25, 2026

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr.
Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

House Bill 1152

Good afternoon Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee. I am Delegate Nicole Williams, and I will be testifying in favor of House Bill 1152, also known as **Department of State Police - Special Police Officers - Study**. This legislation would require the Department of State Police to conduct a study regarding the employment and use of special police officers (SPOs). The findings and recommendations of this report would be due to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before December 1, 2026.

SPOs serve a variety of roles throughout the State of Maryland, with their authority and responsibility dependent on their jurisdiction or employer. This legislation seeks to provide a data-driven and evidence-based approach to identifying challenges, highlighting best practices, and developing balanced recommendations towards enhancing the role of SPOs. In doing so, this legislation will seek input from a variety of stakeholders, including SPOs, their employers, police chiefs, sheriffs, prosecutors, and other impacted officials. Such a collaboration offers an excellent opportunity to provide a thorough and detailed report on SPOs to the Governor and the Maryland General Assembly. For these reasons, I urge this committee to give a favorable report on House Bill 1152.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nicole Williams", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Delegate Nicole A. Williams, Esq.