



MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE LATINO CAUCUS

Lowe House Office Building, 6 Bladen Street, Room 200 · Annapolis, Maryland 21401
Phone 410-841-3374 | 301-858-3374 · 800-492-7122 Ext. 3374 · Fax 410-841-3342 | 301-858-3342
latino.caucus@house.state.md.us · www.mdlatinocaucus.org

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TO: Delegate J. Sandy Bartlett, Chair
Delegate Debra Davis, Vice Chair
Judiciary Committee Members
FROM: Maryland Legislative Latino Caucus
DATE: 2/24/2026
RE: HB0835 - Criminal Procedure - No-Knock Search Warrants

The MLLC supports HB0835 - Criminal Procedure - No-Knock Search Warrants

The MLLC is a bipartisan group of Senators and Delegates committed to supporting legislation that improves the lives of Latinos throughout our state. The MLLC is a crucial voice in the development of public policy that uplifts the Latino community and benefits the state of Maryland. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to express our support of HB0835.

Throughout the nation, no-knock warrants are notorious for creating inherently dangerous interactions between law enforcement officers and civilians. In Maryland specifically, recent reports illustrate that a majority of SWAT deployment and no-knock warrants occur in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Montgomery County, and Prince George's County.¹ These counties have large minority, specifically Latino and Hispanic, populations which leads to disproportionate impacts as a result of these SWAT deployments and no-knock warrants. Rationales for such law enforcement operations are often the need for preservation of evidence and safety of law enforcement; however, research demonstrates that 36% of no-knock warrants fail to produce evidence of drugs and that 50% were executed on homes without guns.² As a result, Maryland Latino and Hispanic communities, who may already have apprehensions toward law enforcement, are unjustifiably subject to unsafe interactions with law enforcement.

By repealing the authority to issue and execute no-knock search warrants, and generally establishing new procedures for the issuance and execution of search warrants, e.g., clearly announcing before entering and only executing warrants during daytime hours, this bill would promote safer interactions between overpoliced minority communities and law enforcement. For the Latino community in particular, this legislation would help build trust between the Latino community and state law enforcement in a time where tensions are particularly high due to federal immigration enforcement. Ultimately, this bill would better protect all minorities from being unnecessarily subject to unconstitutional intrusions of their dwellings which may lead to confusion and safety concerns.

For these reasons, the Maryland Legislative Latino Caucus respectfully requests a favorable report on HB0835.

¹ [PS §§ 3-508\(e\) and 3-525\(e\); GOCPP; SWAT Team Deployment and No-Knock Search Warrants 2024 Report](#)

² [No-Knock Warrants - Center for Justice Research](#)