

MATTHEW J. SCHINDLER
Legislative District 2B
Washington County

Government, Labor, and
Elections Committee

Subcommittees

Government Operations and Ethics
Labor

Local Government/Bi-County Agencies
and Administration

House Study Group on Economic Stability



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 221
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3125
800-492-7122 Ext. 3125
Matthew.Schindler@house.maryland.gov

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HB172: Municipalities - Enforcement Officers - Body-Worn Cameras
Judiciary
February 24th, 2026: 1:00PM

Madam Chair, Madam Vice Chair, and honorable members of the committee, for the record, I am Delegate Matthew Schindler, and I am here to testify in support of House Bill 172.

HB172 is an enabling legislation, simply allowing municipalities to authorize code enforcement officers to wear body cameras if they choose. This legislation would allow municipalities to enhance transparency and ensure that enforcement officers and constituents are able to access a record of their encounters.

In my previous experience as a member of the Hagerstown city council I witnessed many complaints or issues regarding code enforcement that could have been readily resolved if there was a digital record of the enforcement encounter.

I believe this legislation will create a tool that can boost government trust, efficiency, and transparency. Body worn cameras also act as a deterrent toward potential aggressive or confrontational interactions, providing safety for both our officers and citizens. This bill carries no fiscal note and merely gives local jurisdictions another tool in their tool kit.

With that, I thank you all for your time, and I respectfully urge the committee for a **favorable report** on HB172.