

HON. STACY A. MAYER
CIRCUIT COURT
JUDGE
BALTIMORE COUNTY
CHAIR

HON. RICHARD SANDY
CIRCUIT COURT
JUDGE
FREDERICK COUNTY
VICE-CHAIR



KELLEY O'CONNOR
ASSISTANT STATE COURT
ADMINISTRATOR
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
P: (410) 260-1560

SUZANNE PELZ, ESQ.
SNR. GOVT. RELATIONS AND
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER
P: (410)260-1523

MARYLAND JUDICIAL COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

MEMORANDUM

TO: House Judiciary Committee
FROM: Legislative Committee
Suzanne D. Pelz, Esq.
410-260-1523
RE: House Bill 130
Criminal Law – Deed Fraud, Prohibition, Deed Fraud Prevention
Grant Fund, and Task Force to Study Deed Fraud
DATE: January 22, 2026
(2/3)

INFORMATIONAL COMMENT PAPER

The Judiciary respects the separation of powers doctrine and acknowledges the policy-making authority of the legislative branch. As such, the Judiciary has no position on the policy aims of this legislation.

The Judiciary only writes to comment on the provision which requires the Administrative Office of the Courts staff the legislative task force created in this legislation. It is inappropriate for the Judiciary to staff a legislative task force that may propose legislative recommendations and manage policy development functions of the Judiciary's executive and legislative partners. The Judiciary respectfully requests that the Administrative Office of the Courts be removed from staffing the legislative task force.

cc. Hon. Malcolm Ruff
Judicial Council
Legislative Committee
Kelley O'Connor