

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  
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## MARYLAND JUDICIAL COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** House Judiciary Committee  
**FROM:** Legislative Committee  
Suzanne D. Pelz, Esq.  
410-260-1523  
**RE:** House Bill 1145  
Juvenile Records - Access by Baltimore City Mayor's Office  
**DATE:** February 11, 2026  
(2/26)  
**POSITION:** Oppose

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The Maryland Judiciary opposes House Bill 1145, which allows certain named entities broad and unfettered access to otherwise confidential juvenile records without any procedural safeguards in place regarding confidentiality. The Judiciary is concerned that the bill's access language is too broad. There may be cases before the juvenile court in which one or more of the identified entities may be providing services to the child or family, and court or police records may have relevant information. However, it is also probable that the court or police records may contain other information not relevant to the provision of services and of a sensitive or private nature and should not be shared, *e.g.*, informant or witness information, certain medical or social information, certain personal identifying information, among others. This bill does not provide the custodian of the records with any ability to restrict disclosure, to protect that information, nor does it provide for an in camera review process by the court to determine the relevance of the otherwise confidential information. As drafted, the bill seems to provide unfettered access to juvenile records to anyone in the named offices. This access runs counter to the current law's confidentiality protections for juveniles.

cc. Hon. Robbyn Lewis  
Judicial Council  
Legislative Committee  
Kelley O'Connor