



Anne Arundel County Police Department
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Timothy J. Altomare
Chief of Police

January 15, 2020

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

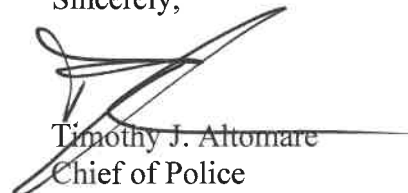
Re: Support Senate Bill 161 – Crimes – Hate Crimes – Use of an Item or a Symbol to Threaten or Intimidate

Dear Chairman Smith and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my support for SB 161. Our agency is devoted to protecting our citizens from hate crimes. In fact, it is the policy of the Anne Arundel County Police Department to bring the investigative, operational, and support elements of our agency into quick action following any and all reported or observed incidents of racial, religious, ethnic, sexual orientation, disability, gender, gender identity or homelessness hated/bias. I believe the language in this bill is needed to strengthen Maryland's Hate Crime Law and will help us hold those responsible for threatening or intimidating our citizens by the use of inscribed items or symbols.

Thank you for considering my support of this bill.

Sincerely,



Timothy J. Altomare
Chief of Police