

# **Newman\_FAV\_SB929**

Uploaded by: Newman, Jay

Position: FAV

**From: Poplar Hill Association, North Roland Park Assoc., Wyndhurst Assoc., Evergreen Assoc., Roland Park Civic League, Keswick Assoc., Guilford Assoc.**

Thank you for the opportunity to present written testimony in support of **Senate Bill #929**

With the severe shortage of police officers in Baltimore City there is a real need to get the Maryland State Police to take over responsibility for I-83 from the City/County line to President Street. They already patrol the section in Baltimore County and they are especially trained for highway patrol.

The responsibility for this stretch of road currently falls on the Baltimore City Police Department and specifically on the resources of the Northern and Central Districts. With accidents occurring daily, and sometimes more than once a day, the burden on the BCPD has become overwhelming. In order to maintain the safety of officers, rescue personnel, and the public, it is often necessary to shut down the roadway in one direction. This requires a minimum of three police cars that must be diverted from neighborhood patrol duties for periods sometimes stretching to as much as two hours. The patrolling of, and response to, communities on both sides of the highway are seriously impacted by these frequent events.

In the past, it appears that jurisdictional issues interfered with the role of the Maryland State Police in Baltimore City, but now there are protocols in place for cooperation and this is a very discreet highway that can be managed as a discreet unit. In addition, this is a roadway that carries traffic from throughout the region. Most of the drivers are not from Baltimore City; they are work commuters, tourists or travelling to and from sporting events. With Maryland State Police enforcement, we might also see a decrease in the excessive speeds and a reduction in accidents.

The undersigned represent communities that are impacted by the current policy and respectfully request that our elected officials work toward having the State Police patrol I-83 through Baltimore City and free up Baltimore City police to patrol Baltimore City. Please make this happen.

Thank you for your courtesy and consideration of our request.

Best Regards,

Jay Newman President, Poplar Hill Assoc.		Robert Connors President, Roland Park Civic League
Doug Schmidt President, North Roland Park Association		Susan Joslow Vice President, Poplar Hill Association
Caroline Wayner President, Wyndhurst		Neetu Dhawan-Gray President, Keswick
Eric Schott President, Evergreen		Tom Hobbs President, Guilford



# **YRP\_FAV\_SB929**

Uploaded by: Partnership, York Road

Position: FAV



York Road Partnership is membership network of 40+ neighborhoods and affiliates promoting the vitality of Baltimore City's York Road community as a desirable urban environment in which to live, shop, work and worship.

**President**

**Donna Blackwell**  
Winston Govans

**Vice President**

**Francesco Legaluppi**  
Villages at Homeland East

**Treasurer**

**Curt Schwartz**  
Richnor Springs

**Recording Secretary**

**Karen DeCamp**  
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Mid-Govans

**Leadership Committee**

**At-Large Members**

**Phyllis Gilmore**

Woodbourne-McCabe

**Nia Govan**

Wilson Park

**Andy McNeely**

Lake Evesham

**Carolyn Anewich**

Govans Presbyterian Church

**Committee Chairs**

**Public Space and Greening**

Helene Perry & Denise Blackwell

**Housing and Neighborhood**

**Revitalization**

Leila Kohler- Frueh & Donna Blackwell

**Public Safety**

Cedric Crump & Christopher Forrest

**Youth Development**

Nia Govan & Kristi Hazard

**Business Engagement**

Christopher Forrest & Lisa O'Reilly

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**York Road Partnership  
Testimony for HB1408/SB0929: SB0929: Public Safety - Baltimore  
City - P.R.O.T.E.C.T. (Public Resources Organizing to End Crime  
Together) Program**

**Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee,  
2/20/2020 - 12:00 p.m**

**House Judiciary Committee,  
3/03/2020 - 1:00 p.m**

**York Road Partnership supports HB1408/SB0929: Public Safety - Baltimore City - P.R.O.T.E.C.T. (Public Resources Organizing to End Crime Together) Program**, which will extend the jurisdiction of Department of State Police to include traffic patrol and accident investigation into highways and major streets in Baltimore city.

York Road Partnership represents 40+ neighborhoods and organizations served by the Northern District of the Baltimore Police Department. Over the past several months, key blocks on the York Road corridor have experienced an influx of violent crime, including several shootings along the central node of the York Road commercial corridor this Fall.

As York Road Partnership works with BPD to better police our communities and prevent violent crime, it has come to our attention that the Northern District is also burdened with traffic patrol and accident investigation on I-83. It is our understanding that when an accident occurs on I-83, at least 3-4 officers are dispatched from Northern District to investigate. While we acknowledge that police presence is required in these situations, we believe that BPD should not be the enforcement agency. Taking away 3-4 officers from an already understaffed District impedes the ability for BPD to do their jobs in our communities. When officers are taken off the beat to respond to an accident a few miles away, they lose the ability to enforce the law, build trust with communities, and investigate violent crime in our neighborhoods.

Traffic patrol and accident response/investigation for highways in the State of Maryland is conducted by the Department of State Police. We are simply looking to be included in the existing practices of the Department of State Police.

**York Road Partnership requests your support for the P.R.O.T.E.C.T Program.**

**Hayes\_FAV\_SB929**

Uploaded by: Senator Hayes, Senator Hayes

Position: FAV



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## **BPD\_FAV\_SB929**

Uploaded by: wirzberger, michelle

Position: FAV



# BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



**BERNARD C. "JACK" YOUNG**  
Mayor

**MICHAEL S. HARRISON**  
Police Commissioner

**TO:** The Honorable Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

**FROM:** Michelle Wirzberger, Esq., Director of Government Affairs, Baltimore Police Dept.

**RE:** Senate Bill 929 Public Safety – Baltimore City – P.R.O.T.E.C.T. (Public Resources Organizing to End Crime Together Program)

**DATE:** February 20, 2020

## **POSITION: SUPPORT**

Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Waldstreicher, and members of the Committee, please be advised that the Baltimore Police Department **supports** Senate Bill 929.

Senate Bill 929 seeks to maximize the use of State, Local and community resources to combat neighborhood decline in the City of Baltimore and throughout the State by supporting comprehensive strategies to reduce crime and fear in those communities and ensure that Baltimore Police Department sworn officers are utilized in direct public safety roles. To achieve those goals, the bill mandates the following:

- ✓ The Department of State Police, the Division of Parole and Probation and the Department of Juvenile Services must establish and operate a warrant apprehension task force partnership;
- ✓ The Baltimore Police Department, Department of Juvenile Services and the Division of Parole and Probation must establish and operate collaborative district officer supervision teams that provide intensive supervision, including increased home visits of adult and juvenile violent offenders;
- ✓ The Department of State Police shall extend its jurisdiction for traffic patrol and accident investigations into highways and streets that serve as significant entry and exit corridors to Baltimore City;
- ✓ The Baltimore City Juvenile Booking Facility and the Baltimore Detention Center shall be staffed by the Department of Juvenile Services and the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, respectively;
- ✓ The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention and the Department of State Police shall select 10 high crime micro-zones within the state and create an "End the Violence" P.R.O.T.E.C.T. coordinator for each zone; and
- ✓ For Fiscal Year 2022 and each fiscal year thereafter, the Governor shall include an annual appropriation sufficient to fully fund the requirements of § 4-1501 of this subtitle and at least \$500,000 to be used by the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention to hire and manage the "End the Violence" P.R.O.T.E.C.T. Coordinators established under § 4-1502 of this subtitle.

The Baltimore Police Department considers the Department of State Police, the Division of Parole and Probation, the Department of Juvenile Services and the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention to be strong allies and trusted partners in the effort to reduce crime in Baltimore City. We are grateful for their current level of support as well as their steadfast commitment to the coordination of efforts to bring about sustained reductions in violence.

This bill further develops the resource sharing and cooperative efforts that are already in place and lays out the frame work for a smart, multi-disciplinary approach to fighting crime and maximizing the resources of the Baltimore Police Department so that we can deter and solve crime more effectively and efficiently.

We are heartened by the fact that all of our leaders are committed to reducing crime throughout Maryland and more specifically within Baltimore City. Therefore, we respectfully request a **favorable** report on Senate Bill 565 and look forward to working with our law enforcement partners and the General Assembly to establish a work plan to accomplish the goals set out within this legislation.

# **PROTECT\_Info\_SB929**

Uploaded by: baranauskas, andy

Position: INFO



## GOVERNOR'S COORDINATING OFFICES

Community Initiatives · Service & Volunteerism · Performance Improvement  
Crime Prevention, Youth, & Victim Services · Small, Minority, & Women Business Affairs  
Banneker-Douglass Museum · Volunteer Maryland · Deaf & Hard of Hearing

### FROM THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME PREVENTION, YOUTH, AND VICTIM SERVICES

Chair Smith , Vice-Chair Waldstreicher, Members of the Committee  
Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee  
2 East, Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

February 20, 2020

### **Senate Bill 929 Public Safety - Baltimore City - P.R.O.T.E.C.T (Public Resources Organizing to End Crime Together) Program**

#### **Position: Informational**

Dear Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Waldstreicher, and Members of the Committee:

Senate Bill 929 Public Safety - Baltimore City - P.R.O.T.E.C.T (Public Resources Organizing to End Crime Together) Program requires state entities -- the Maryland State Police (MSP), Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS), Department of Juvenile Services (DJS), and Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services -- to support strategies to reduce crime in Baltimore City.

These agencies are an important part of the Hogan Administration's initiatives to reduce crime in Baltimore City. The Administration has invested more than \$1 billion in public safety programs in Baltimore City since 2015. This includes enacting the Enhanced Visibility Patrol Initiative through which state law enforcement officers, including the Maryland State Police, Maryland Capitol Police, Maryland Transportation Authority Police, and Maryland Transit Administration Police, patrol high crime areas to detect and deter criminal activity; pushing for a joint strike force comprised of 200 law enforcement officials focused on disrupting and dismantling violent crime organizations; working with local, state, and federal partners to serve high priority warrants; embedding parole and probation agents within the police department; launching a comprehensive juvenile justice initiative to better provide supervision and resources to youth;

and creating the Maryland Criminal Intelligence Network to allow for better data sharing across local, state, and federal law enforcement.

Senate Bill 929 embraces many of the principles underlying these Administration initiatives, particularly collaboration between local, state, and federal agencies as well as intelligence sharing.

For example, Senate Bill 929 would require the Maryland State Police (MSP), Division of Parole and Probation (DPP) and the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) to establish and operate a warrant apprehension task force partnership. It should be noted that these agencies already participate in various warrant initiatives in cooperation with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. This collaboration has yielded more than 500 arrests from over 700 open warrants related to crimes including murder, attempted murder, and firearm violations. The MSP continues to work with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies as part of warrant task forces in Baltimore City and throughout Maryland. The MSP is engaged with the United States Marshals Service warrant initiative to target violent fugitives and with the Baltimore Police Department (BPD) Warrant Apprehension Task Force. DJS also works in the BPD Warrant Apprehension Task Force in assisting police in executing warrants on youth offenders. Generally, parole and probation agents lack the legal authority to execute a search warrant. However, the Department does have a Warrant Apprehension Unit who are statutorily permitted to execute warrants for the arrest of probationers for whom a warrant is issued for an alleged violation of probation. The Department already has six full time detectives from WAU working in Baltimore City with BPD and United States Marshal Service.

The legislation also requires BPD, DJS, and DPP to establish collaborative district officer supervision teams to provide increased supervision of offenders. In August 2017, DPP began requiring parole and probation agents in Baltimore City to report to BPD precincts to hold face-to-face check-ins with offenders under supervision. Currently, DPP reports to the following BPD precincts: Northwestern; Northern; Northeastern; Western; Eastern; Southwestern; Southern; and Southeastern. Agents report to each of these precincts five days a week. From August 25, 2017 to January 23, 2020, DPP has conducted 47,344 face-to-face contacts with offenders at one of these BPD precincts. DPP Agents and BPD Officers also already conduct joint home visits. From August 25, 2017 to January 23, 2020 they have conducted 8,586 joint home contacts and there have been 364 warrants served on DPP offenders while reporting to their agents at the police district.

Additionally, earlier this year, the Administration announced the launch of a new comprehensive juvenile crime strategy to create a better service delivery model and develop a stronger youth accountability process to appropriately provide supervision and services to youth early on.

In addition to duplicating initiatives that are already occurring, there are several provisions of the Senate Bill 929 that pose operational challenges we wish to bring to the Committee's attention:

First, the legislation requires the Maryland State Police to extend its area of jurisdiction for patrol, traffic control and accident investigations into highways and streets that serve as significant entry and exit corridors into Baltimore City, as specified by the Baltimore City Police Commissioner. MSP has limited resources, and these resources should be used to maximize visibility and enforcement initiatives. If legislation directs the MSP to specific locations, the Superintendent of the State Police would have fewer personnel to perform their prescribed patrol and criminal investigation duties around the State as well as diminish the ability to assign or loan to the City for data driven assistance in high risk areas. Further, all 911 calls go to BPD for initial assignment and if MSP is responding to other calls, BPD would still be required to handle incidents on those corridors. Specifically related to I-83, a main corridor into and out of the City, current traffic patrol and enforcement efforts are hampered by significant engineering barriers to conduct the enforcement safely.

Additionally, Senate Bill 929 requires the DJS and DPSCS to staff the Baltimore City Juvenile Booking Facility and the Baltimore Detention Center, respectively. These provisions pose issues for different reasons. The Baltimore City Juvenile Justice Center contains a separate booking space for young people that is staffed and managed by Baltimore City police officers.

BPD has previously reported that they utilize sworn officers that are on light or restricted duty, not patrolling at the present time. BPD has further stated that assigning this non-patrol status personnel to perform administrative duties at the BCJJC does not impact staffing levels in the Districts.

DJS is not a correctional agency and unable to take over the functions of staffing the booking unit. If DJS were to move away from its role as a human services agency, the department could lose its ability to receive Title IV-E Federal Reimbursement, which provides approximately \$2.5 million dollars in federal aid to support children. DPSCS cannot staff the Baltimore Detention Center as the buildings have been demolished and no longer physically exist. If the intent is to mandate DPSCS staff the Baltimore City Booking and Intake Center, the Department already performs this function.

While the Administration certainly appreciates the acknowledgment that the crime levels in our State's largest city are unacceptable, none of these efforts will be successful if we can't keep violent offenders off the streets and illegal guns out of our communities. We urge you to pass the Administration's legislation to increase accountability for violent offenders, Senate Bill 273 Crimes - Firearms - Penalties and Procedures (Violent Firearms Offender Act of 2020); SB 271 Crimes - Victim and Witness Intimidation - Penalties and Procedures; and Senate Bill 272 State Commission on Criminal Sentencing Policy - Annual Report - Crimes of Violence (The Judicial Transparency Act of 2020).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V. Glenn Fueston, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

V. Glenn Fueston, Jr.  
Executive Director  
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services

CC: Senator Antonio Hayes

For all inquiries, please contact  
Andy Baranauskas, Legislative Affairs Manager  
410-855-2538  
[Anthony.Baranauskas@maryland.gov](mailto:Anthony.Baranauskas@maryland.gov)

# **Holness\_ACLU\_INFO\_SB 929**

Uploaded by: Holness, Toni

Position: INFO



## Testimony for the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

February 20, 2020

TONI HOLNESS  
PUBLIC POLICY DIRECTOR

### SB 929 Public Safety - Baltimore City - P.R.O.T.E.C.T. (Public Resources Organizing to End Crime Together) Program

AMERICAN CIVIL  
LIBERTIES UNION  
FOUNDATION OF  
MARYLAND

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OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS  
JOHN HENDERSON  
PRESIDENT

The ACLU of Maryland writes to offer some concerns regarding the potential impact of SB 929 that we would like the Committee to consider as it votes on this legislation.

- 1. SB 929 can be drafted to encourage collaboration with the state without relinquishing authority to the state.** Collaboration between state and local agencies, including law enforcement, may be advantageous. However, we are concerned that the provisions of SB 929 are drafted vaguely and may instead give greater authority to state law enforcement to police Baltimore City communities. While the City has certainly faced leadership challenges in recent years, turning over authority to the state does not resolve those challenges. In fact, it may exacerbate the current and growing sentiment of distrust and alienation felt by Baltimoreans toward law enforcement.
- 2. Maryland State Police (MSP) is not accountable to Baltimoreans and should not have a statutorily created presence in the City.** We strongly urge against statutorily granting the Maryland State Police authority to police Baltimore's communities. We recognize the provisions of the bill limit MSP's role to traffic enforcement, but that alone is sufficient to allow MSP to have a permanent presence anywhere in the City, at any time of day, and at the sole discretion of the Governor—with little (possibly no) regard for the needs and desires of Baltimoreans. We recognize that MSP's role must be specified by the Baltimore Police Commissioner, in consultation with the Secretary of State Police, but this indirect line of accountability to Baltimoreans is attenuated and may exacerbate already strained relations between law enforcement and community.



AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION  
FOUNDATION

## Maryland

3. **The warrant apprehension task force should also be accountable to local communities.** We share the above concerns regarding the warrant apprehension task force. SB 929 requires several state agencies—State Police, Parole and Probation, and DJS to establish and operate a warrant apprehension task force partnership. The omission of a local entity raises some concerns about the accountability of the task force to local communities.
  
4. **“Intensive supervision” does not necessarily yield better safety results.** Under 4-1501(C) of the bill, BPD, DJS, and Parole and Probation shall collaborate to provide “intensive supervision” for adult and juvenile violent offenders. We caution the committee against more intensive supervision, which does not necessarily discourage recidivism. We learned from the Justice Reinvestment Coordinating Council that hyper- supervision mechanisms cause supervisees to often be revoked on technical grounds (e.g. missing an appointment), which may not pose any public safety threat. The JRCC found that at the time, “60 percent of all prison admissions represent failures of probation, parole, or mandatory release supervision. Many of these failures are due to technical violations of the conditions of supervision, like missing an appointment or failing a drug test, rather than for a new criminal conviction.”<sup>1</sup> We therefore caution against adopting even more intensive supervision mechanisms.

<sup>1</sup> Maryland Justice Reinvestment Coordinating Council—Final Report (December 2015).