



## 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 Clippinger, Vice-Chair Atterbeary, Members of the House Judiciary Committee  
Room 101  
House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

March 10, 2020

### **House Bill 1579: Public Safety - Crime Plan and Law Enforcement Councils (Maryland State Crime Plan)**

#### **Position: Informational**

Dear Chair Clippinger, Vice-Chair Atterbeary, and Members of the Committee:

House Bill 1579- Public Safety - Crime Plan and Law Enforcement Councils (Maryland State Crime Plan) would create a law enforcement coordinating council within the State Police, require a state crime plan that calls for the establishment of regional councils for the purpose of regional cooperation, and require monthly reporting on how state resources are used to prevent crime.

The Administration believes strongly that information sharing across jurisdictional lines is a critical aspect of reducing violent crime. In fact, this principle is the main theory behind the Administration's Maryland Criminal Intelligence Network (MCIN) initiative. Launched in December 2017, the MCIN is a criminal justice strategy, coordinated at the local, state, and federal level, targeting violent criminal networks as well as drug, firearms, and human trafficking. MCIN is particularly focused on those criminal networks that are impacting multiple jurisdictions, and accomplishes this by sharing information across jurisdictional lines.

MCIN's goals are focused on identifying, disrupting, and dismantling criminal networks through collaboration and comprehensive data sharing. MCIN aligns state resources to provide for a streamlined and coordinated operational plan which currently includes the following 13 coalitions: Annapolis, Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City, Carroll County, Cecil County,

Cumberland, Dorchester County, Frederick, Hagerstown, Hyattsville, Montgomery County, Prince George's County, and Salisbury.

To date, the MCIN coalition site in Baltimore has resulted in the dismantlement or disruption of 28 criminal organizations, 10 drug trafficking organizations, and 2 gangs as well as the seizure of 54 firearms and more than \$500,000.

Additionally, we wanted to bring to the attention of the Committee two existing bodies -- the Governor's Council on Gangs and Violent Criminal Networks, established by executive order in 2017, as well as the State Law Enforcement Coordinating Council within the Maryland State Police.

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, House Bill 356 Crimes - Firearms - Penalties and Procedures (Violent Firearms Offender Act of 2020); HB 357 Crimes - Victim and Witness Intimidation - Penalties and Procedures; and House Bill 355 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.", written in a cursive style.

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

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

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