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BILL NO.: **HB 671**

TITLE: Public Information Act – Personnel and Investigatory Records
– Complaints Against Police Officers

SPONSOR: The Speaker

COMMITTEE: Judiciary

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

DATE: February 9, 2021

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 88 – Public Information Act – Personnel and Investigatory Records – Complaints Against Police Officers. This legislation makes public certain records related to accusations of job-related misconduct against law enforcement officers.

Baltimore County’s SMART Policing Act was the first step towards reforming police policies and promoting equitable policing across the County’s communities. This local legislation made policing data more public, and it is time for the State to follow suit in enacting policies that promotes transparency and accountability. Making misconduct accusations accessible to the public will give appropriate background when evaluating incidents with law enforcement in the future. Furthermore, making these records subject to Public Information Act requests will allow access to useful data on the administration of law enforcement.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 671. For more information, please contact Chuck Conner, Director of Government Affairs, at cconner@baltimorecountymd.gov.