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POSITION ON PROPOSED LEGISLATION

BILL: SB 777 Public Information Act - Records Relating to Police Misconduct - Fees
FROM: Maryland Office of the Public Defender
POSITION: Favorable
DATE: March 15, 2022

The Maryland Office of the Public Defender strongly supports SB 777 and requests that this Committee issue a favorable report on the bill.

Senate Bill 777 prohibits an official custodian from charging a fee for the search and preparation of the first 500 pages of a certain record relating to an administrative or criminal investigation of misconduct by a police officer.

MOPD urges the Committee to issue a favorable report on SB 777 and consider the additional PDFs submitted with this testimony as examples of the astronomical fees being quoted in response to MPIA requests.

Submitted by: Government Relations Division of the Maryland Office of the Public Defender.