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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.**