

February 2, 2024

Judicial Proceedings Committee
Maryland State Senate
c/o Senator William C. Smith, Jr.
2 East Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Subject: Letter of Support for Senate Bill 0094 - Juvenile Law - Intake and Probation

Dear Senator Smith,

I am writing on behalf of the City Council of the City of Bowie to express our support for Senate Bill 0094, a crucial piece of legislation aimed at improving the handling and reporting of juvenile cases involving the use of firearms. The bill proposes to alter provisions of law related to the juvenile intake process, requiring certain complaints and case files to be forwarded to the State's Attorney under specific circumstances, particularly when a crime involves the use of a firearm.

The safety and well-being of our community, especially our youth, are paramount concerns for the City of Bowie. Senate Bill 0094 addresses a critical aspect of juvenile justice by enhancing the reporting mechanisms for cases involving the use of firearms. By ensuring that such cases are promptly forwarded to the State's Attorney, the legislation contributes to a more robust and effective response to crimes that pose a serious threat to public safety.

The inclusion of provisions specifically related to crimes involving the use of firearms reflects a proactive approach to addressing the unique challenges associated with juvenile firearm offenses. Timely and thorough reporting in these cases is essential for both accountability and intervention to prevent further harm.

As representatives of the City of Bowie, we believe that Senate Bill 0094 aligns with our commitment to public safety and the well-being of our community. We urge the members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee to support this legislation, recognizing its potential to enhance the juvenile justice system and contribute to the overall safety of our city and the state of Maryland.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter, and we appreciate your continued efforts to address issues that impact the safety and security of our community.

Sincerely,

Sowie City Council

Timothy J. Adams

Mayor