

Sayers, Margery

From: Baker, Kevin
Sent: Tuesday, January 4, 2022 11:53 AM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: FW: Police Accountability Board

From: bill cozzo <billcozzo@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 3, 2022 7:50 PM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth <ewalsh@howardcountymd.gov>; Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>; Rigby, Christiana <crigby@howardcountymd.gov>; Jung, Deb <djung@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: Police Accountability Board

Dear Councilmembers,

Please vote at the 4 January legislative session to table the bill (83-2021) establishing Howard County's Police Accountability Board (PAB) and use the time before the 7 February legislative session to improve the bill in order to maximize its ability to fully realize the potential of this bill to increase accountability and transparency in Law Enforcement Agencies (LEA) in Howard County. As written, the bill fails to include vital components required for effectiveness.

If the bill is not tabled, please **vote in favor of all of the amendments** introduced by Councilmember Jung. The bill must be improved to provide the ability of the PAB to get timely access to books and records concerning relevant LEA activities, and to provide that no (additional unnecessary) confidentiality agreement puts a de facto 'gag order' in place that will inhibit the PAB's ability to keep the public informed.

It is vital that Howard County's PAB not become an unimportant, toothless instrument that fails to achieve the promise in the purpose of the State Law. Please vote to ensure that Howard County's PAB becomes a comprehensive model for delivering effective accountability and transparency statewide.

Respectfully,
Bill Cozzo
Ellicott City, MD