

February 27, 2024

Judiciary Committee
Delegate Luke Clippinger
Room 101
House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: HB 597 – Growing Apprenticeships and the Public Safety Workforce (GAPS) Act – **Support**

Dear Delegate Clippinger:

The proposed reform to the Law Enforcement Cadet Apprenticeship Program is a commendable effort to broaden the scope of career opportunities within public safety agencies by providing young individuals the opportunities to begin a career, supporting growth of careers in public safety, and fostering positive relationships between the public, particularly young individuals, and public safety agencies.

A robust public safety workforce enhances community safety and fosters an environment conducive to economic growth and prosperity. By providing individuals with viable pathways to careers in law enforcement, we can support local economies and strengthen the fabric of our communities.

We believe this legislation will be effective for ensuring the safety and well-being of our citizens while also promoting economic opportunity and vitality.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, a business advocacy organization of nearly 700 members, supports this bill and therefore, requests that you give it a favorable report.

Sincerely,

Mike McMullin

President

Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

CC: Senator Justin Ready Delegate April Rose

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