ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY



James R. Guy, President Eric Colvin, Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner Todd B. Morgan, Commissioner John E. O'Connor, Commissioner

February 26, 2019

Senator Bobby Zirkin, Chair Judicial Proceedings Committee 2 East Miller Senate Office Building 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: SB 624 - Juveniles Charged as Adults - Transfer of Jurisdiction - Community Detention LETTER IN OPPOSITION Hearing on March 7, 2019 at 12:00 p.m.

Dear Chairman Zirkin:

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County oppose SB 624 - Juveniles Charged as Adults - Transfer of Jurisdiction - Community Detention which is scheduled to be heard in the Judicial Proceedings Committee on March 7, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. In order to comply with the proposed bill would require a new wing to be constructed as we do not have a housing area to designate for housing juveniles charged as adults separately. Additionally, we do not have many juveniles charged as adults and there would be an isolation factor which is not good for mental health.

We do not believe this bill would benefit the citizens of St. Mary's County. We look forward to working with you on this and other initiatives throughout the session.

Sincerely,

COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY

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Cc: Senator Jack Bailey

Delegate Matthew Morgan Delegate Gerald Clark Delegate Brian Crosby

Commissioner Eric Colvin

Commissioner Michael Hewitt

Commissioner Todd Morgan

Commissioner John O'Connor

Dr. Rebecca Bolton Bridgett, County Administrator

David Weiskopf, County Attorney