



Maryland Alliance for Justice Reform

Dear Senator

As your constituent, I would like to ask you to support police reform that contains specific definitions of lethal force and restrictions on its use.

Current, fear-based policing tactics with insufficient legislative oversight have led to the all-too-often, recurring, tragic and unnecessary killing of civilians. The House bill (HB670) wisely offers explicit, bright-line guidance to police authorities: a clear definition of 'lethal force'; examples of 'reasonable alternatives'; and an objective standard of 'imminent threat.'

In particular the house bill HB670 contains this language, whereas unfortunately this language was removed from SB626 (pp. 3-7) and considerably weakened because of this.

Please let the Judicial Proceedings Committee and Senate Leadership know that you support these specific definitions of lethal force and restrictions on its use and would like to see them included in any compromise. This language is needed or it still will be left to the police to set their own lethal force standards.

Thank you so much,

Sincerely,