

HOUSE BILL 973

P3
HB 682/23 – JUD

4lr2684
CF SB 7

By: **Delegates Valentine, Buckel, McComas, Miller, Munoz, Rose, Tomlinson, and Wivell**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2024

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Safety – Law Enforcement Agencies – Positive Community Feedback**

3 FOR the purpose of adding positive community feedback to the list of records that are not
4 considered personnel records for certain purposes; requiring the Maryland Police
5 Training and Standards Commission to develop a process for citizens to submit
6 certain feedback; requiring each law enforcement agency to adopt the uniform citizen
7 positive community feedback process; requiring a law enforcement agency to
8 maintain a certain record that is subject to public inspection; and generally relating
9 to law enforcement agencies.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article – General Provisions
12 Section 4–311(c) and 4–351(a)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

15 BY adding to
16 Article – Public Safety
17 Section 3–207(m) and 3–519.1
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

20 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
21 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

22 **Article – General Provisions**

23 4–311.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (c) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, **THE**
 2 **FOLLOWING RECORDS ARE NOT PERSONNEL RECORDS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS**
 3 **SECTION:**

4 (I) a record relating to an administrative or criminal investigation
 5 of misconduct by a police officer, including an internal affairs investigatory record[,];

6 (II) a hearing record[,];

7 (III) **A RECORD OF POSITIVE COMMUNITY FEEDBACK;** and

8 (IV) records relating to a disciplinary decision[, is not a personnel
 9 record for purposes of this section].

10 (2) A record of a technical infraction is a personnel record for the purposes
 11 of this section.

12 4–351.

13 (a) Subject to subsections (b), (c), and (d) of this section, a custodian may deny
 14 inspection of:

15 (1) records of investigations conducted by the Attorney General, a State’s
 16 Attorney, a municipal or county attorney, a police department, or a sheriff;

17 (2) an investigatory file compiled for any other law enforcement, judicial,
 18 correctional, or prosecution purpose;

19 (3) records that contain intelligence information or security procedures of
 20 the Attorney General, a State’s Attorney, a municipal or county attorney, a police
 21 department, a State or local correctional facility, or a sheriff; or

22 (4) records, other than a record of a technical infraction, relating to an
 23 administrative or criminal investigation of misconduct by a police officer, including an
 24 internal affairs investigatory record, a hearing record, **A RECORD OF POSITIVE**
 25 **COMMUNITY FEEDBACK,** and records relating to a disciplinary decision.

26 Article – Public Safety

27 3–207.

28 (M) (1) **THE COMMISSION SHALL DEVELOP A UNIFORM CITIZEN POSITIVE**
 29 **COMMUNITY FEEDBACK PROCESS TO BE FOLLOWED BY EACH LAW ENFORCEMENT**
 30 **AGENCY.**

31 (2) **THE UNIFORM CITIZEN POSITIVE COMMUNITY FEEDBACK**

1 PROCESS SHALL:

2 (I) BE SIMPLE; AND

3 (II) BE POSTED ON THE WEBSITE OF THE COMMISSION AND
4 EACH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.

5 **3-519.1.**

6 (A) EACH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY SHALL ADOPT THE UNIFORM
7 CITIZEN POSITIVE COMMUNITY FEEDBACK PROCESS DEVELOPED BY THE
8 MARYLAND POLICE TRAINING AND STANDARDS COMMISSION UNDER § 3-207 OF
9 THIS TITLE.

10 (B) A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY SHALL:

11 (1) POST THE AGENCY'S POSITIVE COMMUNITY FEEDBACK PROCESS
12 ON THE AGENCY'S WEBSITE IF THE AGENCY MAINTAINS A WEBSITE; AND

13 (2) MAINTAIN A RECORD OF POSITIVE COMMUNITY FEEDBACK FOR
14 ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WITHIN THE AGENCY.

15 (C) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, RECORDS
16 MAINTAINED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION ARE SUBJECT TO PUBLIC
17 INSPECTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MARYLAND PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT.

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
19 October 1, 2024.