



**CALVERT COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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Board of Commissioners
Mark C. Cox Sr.
Catherine M. Grasso
Earl F. Hance
Mike Hart
Todd Ireland

March 2, 2023

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

Re: HB1174 – Authority for the State’s Attorney to appoint the County Attorney to enforce civil citations
Chair Clippinger:

The Board of County Commissioners for Calvert County writes in **SUPPORT** of **HB1174** and requests a **FAVORABLE** Committee report. This request extends the existing municipal infraction enforcement provisions of Code counties to Calvert, a Commissioner county. Enabling the State’s Attorney to delegate enforcement of municipal infractions to a County attorney is expected to increase governmental efficiencies.

For background, Calvert is one of a few remaining counties with the Commissioner form of government. As such, the Board of County Commissioners has only the powers granted by the State. For Code Counties, Charter Counties, and municipalities, there exists provision of State law that allow the State’s Attorney to designate and delegate to the county or municipal attorney power to prosecute civil citations, such as violations of local ordinances. There is not companion law for Commissioner Counties. To relieve the burden upon the State’s Attorney to also learn the local ordinances and laws, we propose that legislation be passed allowing the State’s Attorney to delegate power to the county attorney to prosecute civil citations. Our request is to replicate the provision available in Code counties found in Md. Code Ann., Local Gov. Art., § 11-206(b), at § 12-904 of that *Article*, applicable in Calvert County.

Your thoughtful consideration of this request is sincerely appreciated. Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact County Administrator Julian M. Willis at 410-535-1600, extension 2202 or County Attorney John Norris at 410-535-1600, extension 2566. Thank you for your kind consideration of our position regarding this important local Bill.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND

Handwritten signature of Earl F. Hance in blue ink.

Earl F. Hance

Handwritten signature of Mike Hart in blue ink.

Mike Hart, Vice President

Handwritten signature of Mark C. Cox Sr. in blue ink.

Mark C. Cox Sr.

Handwritten signature of Catherine M. Grasso in blue ink.

Catherine M. Grasso

Handwritten signature of Todd Ireland in blue ink.

Todd Ireland

cc: Calvert County Senators and Delegation