SENATE BILL 533

E4

5lr2945 CF HB 238

By: **Senators Folden, Bailey, Salling, and Ready** Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2025 Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

Public Safety – Police Accountability – Time Limit for Filing Administrative Charges

FOR the purpose of altering the deadline for the completion of the process of review by a 4 $\mathbf{5}$ certain investigating unit through disposition by an administrative charging 6 committee under certain circumstances; requiring a law enforcement agency to file 7 any administrative charges arising out of an investigation of alleged police officer 8 misconduct that is not required to be reviewed by an administrative charging 9 committee within a certain period of time; requiring an administrative charging committee or law enforcement agency to file any administrative charges for alleged 10 11 police officer misconduct that reasonably appears to be the subject of a criminal 12investigation within a certain period of time; and generally relating to police accountability. 13

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

- 15 Article Public Safety
- 16 Section 3–113
- 17 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 18 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

21

Article – Public Safety

22 3–113.

(a) The investigating unit of a law enforcement agency shall immediately review
a complaint by a member of the public alleging police officer misconduct.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) An administrative charging committee shall review and make a determination 2 or ask for further review within 30 days after completion of the investigating unit's review.

3 (c) [The] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION, FOR 4 AN INCIDENT INVOLVING A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC AND A POLICE OFFICER, THE 5 process of review by the investigating unit through disposition by the administrative 6 charging committee shall be completed within 1 year and 1 day after the [filing of a 7 complaint by a citizen] DATE THAT THE APPROPRIATE OFFICIAL EMPLOYED BY THE 8 LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY BECAME AWARE OF THE INCIDENT.

9 (D) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION, A LAW 10 ENFORCEMENT AGENCY SHALL FILE ANY ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES ARISING OUT 11 OF AN INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGED POLICE OFFICER MISCONDUCT THAT IS NOT 12 REQUIRED TO BE REVIEWED BY AN ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGING COMMITTEE 13 WITHIN 1 YEAR AND 1 DAY AFTER THE DATE THAT THE APPROPRIATE OFFICIAL 14 EMPLOYED BY THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY BECAME AWARE OF THE INCIDENT 15 THAT LED TO THE INVESTIGATION.

16 **(E)** IF ALLEGED POLICE OFFICER MISCONDUCT IS RELATED TO ACTIVITY 17 THAT REASONABLY APPEARS TO BE THE SUBJECT OF A CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION, 18 AN ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGING COMMITTEE OR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY 19 SHALL FILE ANY ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES WITHIN 1 YEAR AND 1 DAY AFTER THE 20 DATE OF:

21(1) THE INVESTIGATING LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY'S22DETERMINATION THAT THE MATTER IS NOT RELATED TO CRIMINAL ACTIVITY;

23 (2) THE FINAL DISPOSITION OF ALL RELATED CRIMINAL CHARGES; 24 OR

25 (3) THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGING COMMITTEE'S OR LAW 26 ENFORCEMENT AGENCY'S RECEIPT OF NOTICE THAT THE APPROPRIATE 27 PROSECUTORIAL AUTHORITY DECLINED TO FILE CRIMINAL CHARGES.

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 29 October 1, 2025.