

AUSTIN DAVIS, MEMBER
DEPUTY WHIP
35TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT
G-07 IRVIS OFFICE BUILDING
P. O. BOX 202035
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2035
(717) 783-1018
FAX: (717) 780-4779

627 LYSLE BOULEVARD
MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA 15132
(412) 664-0035
FAX: (412) 664-0039

3910 MAIN STREET, SUITE 6
MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA 15120
(412) 476-3046
FAX: (412) 476-3048

551 HAVENSBURG BOULEVARD
CLAIRTON, PENNSYLVANIA 15025
(412) 233-2905
FAX: (412) 233-2507



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

APPROPRIATIONS
CONSUMER AFFAIRS
URBAN AFFAIRS
INSURANCE

CAUCUSES

PA LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS
AFTER SCHOOL
CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
HUNGER
MANUFACTURING
STEEL
YMCA
BLUEGREEN
CLIMATE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

DELEGATIONS

ALLEGHENY

MEMORANDUM

To: All House Members
From: Representative Austin Davis
Date: December 9, 2020
Re: Citizen Police Review Boards

In light of recent events, it has become abundantly clear that we, as a state, must do our part to include more citizen participation in law enforcement. We can no longer ignore the calls for more police oversight and transparency in policing.

My legislation, a companion to Senator Wayne Fontana's Senate Bill, aims to solve this by creating a County Independent Citizens Law Enforcement Review Board in second through eighth class counties. Comprised of at least nine members who reflect the geographic and cultural diversity of the county, the board would be authorized to investigate selected local police misconduct complaints and establish mediation programs or conduct public hearings, subpoena witnesses, etc.

Citizen participation in policy making produces numerous benefits and increases trust between the community and its leaders. Similar to the role a jury plays in a trial, an independent review board would allow the people to decide when unjustifiable actions have been committed by the police, instead of an internal investigation. Please join me in supporting this legislation to increase transparency in our policing.