

## HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

"PROMOTING AND ENFORCING LAWS AGAINST DISCRIMINATION"

1(877) 54-HUMAN FAX: (302) 577-3486

May 27, 2021

Senator Kyle Evans Gay, Chair Senator Bryan Townsend, Vice Chair Senator Darius J. Brown, Member Senator Sarah McBride, Member Senator Dave G. Lawson, Member Senator Brian Pettyjohn, Member

Dear Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

The Delaware State Human Relations Commission is writing to express our support for SB 149 and to urge respectfully that the Senate Judiciary Committee act favorably on it.

The Commission supports efforts to make legislative changes to LEOBOR and FOIA to allow criminal defense attorneys and the public to have access to police misconduct records. These records need to be made more transparent and accessible in Delaware, as they currently are in other states. The Commission believes that both law enforcement and the public are served best by increased accountability for instances of police misconduct. We also support the creation of community review boards that can hold hearings, subpoena witnesses and evidence, and make recommendations concerning law enforcement policy and trainings

We are pleased to be listed among the supporters of this effort, and we look forward to the passage of the legislative amendments to LEOBOR and FOIA contained in SB 149.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Gail Tarlecki, Chair

State Human Relations Commission

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