



City of Cambridge

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For Immediate Release

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Mayor Cephas Bey Appointed SAG Chair

Cambridge Mayor Lajan Cephas Bey has been appointed chairperson of the Maryland State Advisory Group (SAG). The group helps the governor ensure that Maryland is upholding the key provisions of the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJJPA) and that the funds available for this work are properly deployed. Mayor Cephas Bey began her service with the group in 2022.

The JJJPA was passed in 1974 and has been revised and amended several times, most recently in 2018. There are four core provisions of the law: 1) keeping status offenders – juveniles charged with crimes that are illegal solely based on age – out of the carceral system; 2) ensuring juveniles are separated from adults in institutions where contact is possible; 3) preventing juveniles from being housed in adult facilities; and 4) addressing unfair or discriminatory treatment based on race or ethnicity within the juvenile justice system. SAG's goals are to ensure Maryland's compliance with these caveats and to oversee the funds received for meeting these objectives are properly and fairly deployed and used.

Mayor Cephas will accept the gavel at the Nov. 4, 2025 meeting.

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