



# Maryland Association for Justice, Inc.

## 2020 Position Paper

### HB 493

### Criminal Procedure - Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund – Conditions for Awards on Claims

#### FAVORABLE

The Maryland Association for Justice (MAJ) is an organization of trial lawyers. Our members represent the victims injured by bad and negligent actors.

HB 493 authorizes the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board to make an award from the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund to a victim of a crime if the crime or delinquent act directly resulted in damage to the property of the victim. HB 493 requires the board to waive, for good cause shown, the requirements that police, other law enforcement, or judicial records show that the crime or delinquent act or the discovery of child abuse was reported properly reported and provided that the victim has cooperated fully with all law enforcement units.

Generally, MAJ is supportive of victims receiving the best recovery afforded to them. Should HB 493 be enacted, victims of crimes would have an easier experience in receiving compensation for damages resulting from personal injury and damage to their property.

**MAJ respectfully asks for a FAVORABLE report.**