



# Maryland Chiefs of Police Association Maryland Sheriffs' Association



## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Vanessa Atterbeary, Chair and  
Members of the House Ways & Means Committee

FROM: Darren Popkin, Executive Director, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee  
Andrea Mansfield, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee  
Natasha Mehu, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee

DATE: February 7, 2024

RE: **HB 472 - Education - School Mapping Data Program - Established**

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) **SUPPORT HB 472**. This bill creates a School Mapping Data program and authorizes the use of Safe Schools Funds to provide grants to local school systems for this program.

HB 472 would allow local school boards in consultation with local law enforcement agencies to apply for funds through the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) to produce school mapping data for each public school in the county. When an emergency occurs at a school, time is of the essence. Law enforcement has precious minutes to respond accordingly. The mapping data would provide accurate and up-to-date information on the school buildings and grounds so that first responders aren't entering the building completely blind and can coordinate appropriate entry or response.

Mapping data and funding created under this new program are critical in assisting first responders as they respond to emergencies at a school. For these reasons, MCPA and MSA **SUPPORT HB 472** and urge a **FAVORABLE** committee report.