

Working to end sexual violence in Maryland

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Testimony Supporting Senate Bill 4 Lisae C. Jordan, Executive Director & Counsel February 1, 2024

The Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MCASA) is a non-profit membership organization that includes the State's seventeen rape crisis centers, law enforcement, mental health and health care providers, attorneys, educators, survivors of sexual violence and other concerned individuals. MCASA includes the Sexual Assault Legal Institute (SALI), a statewide legal services provider for survivors of sexual assault. MCASA represents the unified voice and combined energy of all of its members working to eliminate sexual violence. We urge the Judicial Proceedings Committee to report favorably on Senate Bill 4.

Senate Bill 4 – Support for Victims & Survivors When Inmate is Released

This bill would require that a victim of a crime receive contact information for the lead victim witness coordinator at the State's Attorney's Office where the crime was committed when an inmate is released. MCASA fully supports providing victims and survivors with information and support throughout the criminal justice process, including when assailants are released from prison. We respectfully defer to the State's Attorneys' Association regarding whether this is the appropriate person.

The Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault urges the Judicial Proceedings Committee to report favorably on Senate Bill 4