



To: Members of The House Judiciary Committee
From: Doyle Niemann, Chair, Legislative Committee, Criminal Law and Practice Section,
Maryland State Bar Association
Date: February 9, 2024
Subject: **HB476 – Forensic Genetic Genealogical DNA Analysis and Search - Applicability
for Deceased and Missing Children**
Position: **SUPPORT**

The Legislative Committee of the Criminal Law & Practice Section of the Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA) **Supports SB 549.**

This bill will allow the use of forensic genetic genealogical analysis in the investigation of deceased and missing children. It is a narrowly crafted bill that creates a useful exception to current laws regulating the use of genetic genealogical techniques. It will apply only in a handful of situations where the identification of deceased children or missing children whose location is unknown is extremely important and difficult to find using other techniques.

For the reasons stated, we **Support HB476 – Forensic Genetic Genealogical DNA Analysis and Search - Applicability for Deceased and Missing Children.**

If you have questions about the position of the Criminal Law and Practice Section's Legislative Committee, please feel free to address them to me at 240-606-1298 or at doyleniemann@gmail.com.

Should you have other questions, please contact The MSBA's Legislative Office at (410) 387-5606..