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**CECIL COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**

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State of Maryland Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
2 West
Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

January 13, 2020

Dear Chairman Pinsky and members of the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee:

The Maryland Association of Counties Emergency Managers Affiliate ("MACo EM Affiliate") supports Senate Bill 80 - Maryland Intrastate Emergency Management Assistance Compact (MEMAC). Local emergency managers use MEMAC to both provide and request emergency management and public safety resources across jurisdictional boundaries. If passed into law, the provisions in this bill would make it easier to enter into this compact and make resource sharing more efficient before, during, and after disasters. The MACo EM Affiliate specifically recognizes the importance of removing the requirement for a local state of emergency to be declared in order to make resource requests through MEMAC. This current requirement, which this bill removes, is an unnecessary administrative burden.

The MACo EM Affiliate is comprised of 26 appointed local emergency management directors from all 23 counties and the City of Baltimore. As Chairman of the affiliate we work diligently to enhance the Homeland Security, public safety, communications, inter agency relationships and effective practices that consume our daily operations.

The MACo EM Affiliate believes this bill will improve resource management for local jurisdictions before, during, and after special events, incidents, and disasters. We urge you to review this bill favorably.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard K. Brooks, III'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Richard K. Brooks, III
Director