



Maryland | Delaware | DC Press Association

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To: Health & Government Operations Committee
From: Rebecca Snyder, Executive Director, MDDC Press Association
Date: February 11, 2020
Re: **HB 372 – Support**

The Maryland-Delaware-District of Columbia Press Association represents a diverse membership of media organizations, from large metro dailies such as the Washington Post and the Baltimore Sun, to publications such as The Daily Record and online only outlets such as Maryland Matters and Baltimore Brew.

The Press Association supports HB 372, which clarifies the definition of “sociological information” as it relates to public records. Specifically, it clarifies that an individual’s personal email address is not considered sociological information. In recent practice, our members have found that custodians have been using an overly broad definition of sociological information to shield information that should be disclosed under the Public Information Act. This bill will rectify that overreach.

The Press Association encourages a favorable report on HB 372.



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central to a strong and open society.**

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