

<u>HB 1524</u> Procurement and Correctional Facilities – Employment Opportunities for Formerly Incarcerated Individuals

MCAA Position: Oppose

TO: Health and Government Operations

DATE: March 10, 2020

FROM: T.D. Reece, President

Most local correctional facilities contract with private vendors for a range of services to include medical services, pharmaceutical services, food services, telephone services, and technical services just to name a few.

HB 1524 would create extraordinarily burdensome requirements on private industries regarding the employment of formerly incarcerated individuals. These burdensome requirements would lead to fewer potential bidders and ultimately less competitive bidding processes for local correctional facilities.

The managing officials of local correctional facilities are very aware and understanding to the need to provide services to educate, train, and assist incarcerated persons with employment. In fact, every local correctional facility in the State of Maryland provides many programs to help accomplish this.

The MCAA strongly opposes this bill. We ask this committee for an unfavorable report on HB 1524.