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Judicial Proceedings Committee

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Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee The Honorable William C. Smith 2 East Miller Senate Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

## **RE:** SB 889 – Adjudicatory Hearings – Attorney Security Passes for Attorneys in Good Standing

Dear Chairman Smith and Members of the Committee:

I am pleased to introduce Senate Bill 889 which will establish a workgroup to study the issuance of attorney security passes for State court facilities for attorneys in good standing with the courts.

The draft of this bill at your desks requires the Administrative Office of the Courts, in consultation with the Maryland State Bar Association, to implement a system which offers security passes for attorneys in order to help them bypass the initial security screening at courthouses around the state of Maryland.

Due to objection by the Maryland Judiciary at the House hearing on the cross-filed bill, I have decided to turn this legislation into a workgroup to study the possibilities of issuing security passes to attorneys in good standing. I believe that it certainly should be possible to craft a uniform statewide system of security passes. My hope is to bring the parties together over the summer to craft a consensus bill for next year.

I ask the committee for a favorable report.