



Maryland Fire Chiefs Association

Representing the Maryland Emergency Services Officers with Progression While Maintaining Tradition

Honorable William C. Smith, Chair
Judicial Proceedings Committee,
Maryland Senate

March 12th, 2020

Re: Opposition to Senate Bill 1008

Dear Mr. Chairman,

My name is Harve Woods and I am the Legislative Committee Chairman of the Maryland Fire Chief's Association (MFCA). The MFCA serves as the organization representing over 1,600 volunteer and career Chief Officers throughout Maryland. I am writing on behalf of the members of the MFCA who are in **Opposition** to Senate Bill 1008 – Public Safety, Criminal History Records Check – Fire Departments, Rescue Squads, and Ambulance Services.

Our **Opposition** to this Bill is based on the Fact that, across the State, there are places where the application process is out of the hands of the Fire Departments, etc. and placed with local government. The determination of if and when to initiate any portion of the application process is established by local law and not by the Agencies that are the subject of this bill.

Additionally, the "Peer Review Committee" albeit under different names, already exists in both the volunteer and local government agencies/departments that are the subject of this Bill. We thank the committee for their time and attention, and respectfully request that the Committee give an **Unfavorable** report on Senate Bill 1008.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harve Woods
Legislative Committee Chair,
Maryland Fire Chief's Association.