



CLYDE BOATWRIGHT  
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MARYLAND STATE LODGE  
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KENNETH SCHUBERT  
SECRETARY  
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TREASURER

January 18, 2021

The Honorable Chairman Smith and  
Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

RE: **Senate bill 74- Police Officers – Mental Health – Employee Assistance  
Programs**  
**Position: SUPPORT**

Dear Chairman Smith, Vice Chairman Waldstreicher, and esteemed Members of the Senate  
Judicial Proceedings Committee,


The Maryland State Fraternal Order of Police applauds Senator Mary Washington for sponsoring  
SB74- Police Officers- Mental Health- Employee Assistance Programs. On behalf of over 20,000  
members, the Maryland State Fraternal Order of Police hereby supports the passage of Senate bill 74.

Police officers undergo hardship, stress, and traumatic encounters on a daily basis. Although  
many officers are equipped to handle these challenges, it can be difficult to endure and may affect one's  
mental health. This piece of legislation will provide beneficial services for police officers that will help  
address and alleviate some of these concerns. We believe that access to good mental health services that  
ensure confidentiality will have a positive impact on police officer morale.

We understand there will be an amendment that changes the term "mental health evaluations" to  
"resiliency review." The Maryland State FOP supports this friendly amendment.

We greatly appreciate Senator Washington's leadership and hard work in putting forth this  
important legislation. The Maryland State Fraternal Order of Police respectfully requests this Honorable  
Committee deliver a favorable report on Senate bill 74 – Police Officers – Mental Health – Employee  
Assistance Programs.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

  
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Clyde Boatwright, President,  
Maryland State Lodge

*Representing the Professional Police Officers of the State of Maryland*