



CLYDE BOATWRIGHT  
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MARYLAND STATE LODGE  
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KENNETH SCHUBERT  
SECRETARY  
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TREASURER

January 15, 2021

The Honorable Chairman Clippinger and  
Members of the House Judiciary Committee

RE: **House bill 88- Police Officers – Mental Health – Employee Assistance  
Programs  
Position: SUPPORT**

Dear Chairman Clippinger, Vice Chairwoman Atterbeary, and esteemed Members of the House  
Judiciary Committee,

The Maryland State Fraternal Order of Police applauds Delegate Benjamin Brooks for sponsoring  
HB88- Police Officers- Mental Heath- Employee Assistance Programs. On behalf of over 20,000  
members, the Maryland State Fraternal Order of Police hereby supports the passage of House bill 88.

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  
assure confidentiality will have a positive impact on police officer morale.

After speaking with Delegate Brooks, 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 Delegate Brooks'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 House bill 88 – Police Officers – Mental Health – Employee Assistance  
Programs.

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

  
Clyde Boatwright, President,  
Maryland State Lodge

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