



Working to end sexual violence in Maryland

P.O. Box 8782
Silver Spring, MD 20907
Phone: 301-565-2277
Fax: 301-565-3619

For more information contact:
Lisae C. Jordan, Esquire
443-995-5544
www.mcasa.org

Testimony Supporting House Bill 270
Lisae C. Jordan, Executive Director & Counsel
February 2, 2022

The Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MCASA) is a non-profit membership organization that includes the State's seventeen rape crisis centers, law enforcement, mental health and health care providers, attorneys, educators, survivors of sexual violence and other concerned individuals. MCASA includes the CAAST project – the Coordinated Action Against Sex Trafficking. CAAST is a statewide project to develop services for survivors of sex trafficking. It includes a network of rape crisis centers, the Sexual Assault Legal Institute, and other service providers striving to create comprehensive services for sex trafficking survivors across the State of Maryland. MCASA represents the unified voice and combined energy of all of its members working to eliminate sexual violence. We urge the Economic Matters Committee to report favorably on House Bill 270.

House Bill 270 – Innkeepers and Human Trafficking Prevention

House Bill 270 requires the Governor's Office for Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services to approve an educational training program and a refresher training program about human trafficking, delineates the content of the training, and requires innkeepers to provide the training annually to employees. It also requires innkeepers to maintain a computerized recordkeeping system of all guest transactions and receipts, which shall be retained for at least six months. This assists with criminal investigations into trafficking. Hotels and lodging establishments are often used by traffickers for both commercial sexual exploitation and forced labor. This bill will help educate those working in the lodging business on trafficking and aids law enforcement in their efforts to identify and end human trafficking.

**The Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault urges the
Economics Matters Committee to
report favorably on House Bill 270**