

 $Maryland \ State \ Lodge$ Fraternal Order of Police[®]



8302 COVE ROAD, BALTIMORE, MD 21222

KENNETH SCHUBERT SECRETARY EARL KRATSCH TREASURER

Maryland House Judiciary Committee House Office Building 6 Bladen St. Annapolis, Maryland

Support for Senate Bill 389 (Public Safety - Maryland Police Accountability Act Revisions and Clarifications

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to you on behalf of the more than 20,000 sworn and retired police officers of Maryland, to urge your support for SB389 (Public Safety – Maryland Police Accountability Act Revisions and Clarifications). Like you, Maryland's police officers support a transparent disciplinary process which affords due process to those accused of committing violations. While the Maryland Police Accountability Act sought to create such a system, it fell short of prescribing the process by which internal complaints would be adjudicated.

If we are to achieve a fair and transparent disciplinary process, it is important that internal complaints be subjected to the same disciplinary matrix and hearing board process as those complaints originating from external sources. We believe the revisions and clarifications contained within SB389 accomplishes that objective.

The Maryland Fraternal Order of Police urges a favorable report on SB389.

Fraternally,

William R. "Will" Milam First Vice President

Representing the Professional Police Officers of the State of Maryland