



# M a r y l a n d Troopers Association



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The Honorable Guy Guzzone, Chair and Members of the Budget & Taxation Committee

**RE: SB 597 Pensions and Retirement – Forfeiture of Benefits – Law Enforcement Officers**

**POSITION: OPPOSE**

The MTA opposes SB 597 and the subjected forfeiture of retirement and pension benefits when a law enforcement officer is found guilty of, pleads guilty to, or enters a plea of nolo contendere to a felony, perjury, or misdemeanor relating to truthfulness and veracity committed while performing their duties.

The Maryland State Police, like many other agencies in this State, faces issues with recruiting well intentioned, competent officers to protect the citizens of Maryland. This legislation will further exacerbate that problem. If the State cannot ensure that law enforcement officers pension and retirement benefits are protected like every other citizen and employee in this State, then many may choose different careers.

We respectfully ask for an unfavorable report for SB 597.

Brian Blubaugh  
President  
Maryland Troopers Association

**Member of National Troopers Coalition**

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