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MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
From: Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA), Shaoli Katana, Esq., Advocacy Director
Subject: Senate Bill 754 - Maryland Wiretap and Electronic Surveillance Reform
Workgroup
Date: March 14, 2023
Position: Support with Amendment

The Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA) supports **Senate Bill 754 - Maryland Wiretap and Electronic Surveillance Reform Workgroup**. SB754 establishes the Maryland Wiretap and Electronic Surveillance Reform Work Group to study the effectiveness of Maryland's wiretapping and electronic surveillance laws; and requires the Work Group to report its final findings and recommendations regarding revisions to Maryland's wiretapping and electronic surveillance laws to the Governor and General Assembly by December 1, 2024.

The MSBA represents more attorneys and judges than any other organization across the State in all practice areas. MSBA serves as the voice of Maryland's legal profession. Through its Laws Committee and various practice-specific sections, MSBA monitors and takes positions on legislation of importance to the legal profession.

The MSBA strongly supports the creation of this Task Force and requests that the bill be amended to include "At least two representatives from the Maryland State Bar Association, designed by the MSBA President."

With membership of thousands of practitioners from over two dozen practice areas, including leading experts in the fields of criminal law, family law, business law, and privacy, the MSBA can provide valuable expertise to this Task Force.

For the reasons stated above, MSBA supports SB754 and respectfully requests a favorable report with proposed amendment. For additional information, please feel free to contact Shaoli Katana at MSBA at shaoli@msba.org.