



Maryland Chiefs of Police Association Maryland Sheriffs' Association



MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Luke Clippinger, Chair and
Members of the Judiciary Committee

FROM: Darren Popkin, Executive Director, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee
Andrea Mansfield, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee
Natasha Mehu, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee

DATE: March 29, 2023

RE: **SB 1 - Criminal Law – Wearing, Carrying, or Transporting Firearms –
Restrictions 3 (Gun Safety Act of 2023)**

POSITION: **LETTER OF INFORMATION**

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) are submitting this letter of information to the Judiciary Committee concerning SB 1.

MCPA and MSA appreciates the Senate's amendments to provide exceptions for carrying a firearm for currently employed, off-duty, and retired law enforcement officials. However, MCPA and MSA requests further amendments to also exempt civilian law enforcement employees such as crime scene technicians and quartermaster personnel as it appears they would be violating the law when handling firearms inside government buildings.

As amended, SB 1 provides an exception for "law enforcement official" which is defined in Criminal Law §4-201, but this definition does not include civilian law enforcement personnel like those who are mentioned above. To provide clarity and ensure these personnel can continue to do their jobs, MCPA and MSA respectfully request the following amendment be added to §4-111(B) of this legislation.

"An on-duty employee of a law enforcement agency authorized by the agency to possess firearms while on-duty or whose duty assignment involves the possession of firearms.

MCPA and MSA thank the Judiciary Committee for its consideration.