



M a r y l a n d Troopers Association



INCORPORATED 1979

February 20, 2024

The Honorable Ben Barnes, Chair and Members of the Appropriations Committee

RE: HB 618 - Police Retention Workgroup

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Maryland Troopers Association (MTA) has a membership strength of approximately 2,629 members of which 1,120 are active sworn Troopers involved in traffic and criminal enforcement throughout the State of Maryland.

Much like the rest of the country, in Maryland, police officer recruitment and retention is down. Applications to the Maryland State Police are down 40% over last year. This impacts every single aspect of our departments, our communities, and our state. While there are several factors that we have personally identified within the MD Troopers Association, we support the establishment of the Police Retention Workgroup to study issues and factors potentially contributing to the decline in police officer retention statewide.

The Maryland Troopers Association supports HB 618 and requests a favorable report.

Brian Blubaugh
President
Maryland Troopers Association