Dana Jones

Legislative District 30A Anne Arundel County

Appropriations Committee

Subcommittees

Vice Chair, Health and Social Services

Oversight Committee on Pensions

Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive, and Legislative Review

> Vice Chair, Anne Arundel County Delegation



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony of Delegate Dana Jones Before the Appropriations Committee

In Support of HB 768 Judges' Retirement System - Special Death Benefit February 27th 2024, 1:00 pm

Chair Barnes, Vice Chair Chang, and my friends on the Appropriations Committee, I come before you today to present HB 768 – Judges' Retirement System – Special Death Benefit.

This bill establishes a line of duty death benefit for Members of the Judges' Retirement System, consistent with the benefits for most other plans with the state. It also ensures that JRS survivors receiving the benefit are eligible to participate in the State health plan, just like survivors in the other plans. This bill also includes a retroactive provision to allow for any affected surviving spouses to apply for the benefit, so that all instances of line of duty member deaths are treated equitably.

With that, I respectfully ask for a favorable report on HB 768.

Sincerely,

Delegate Dana Jones