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February 28, 2024

The Honorable Chair CT Wilson and Members of the Economic Matters Committee

## RE: HB 190 - Workers' Compensation - Occupational Disease Presumptions -First Responders

## 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.

We support House Bill 190 because we believe it would ensure that law enforcement officers would be correctly compensated under the workers compensation law for a diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder. Troopers face extremely stressful situations daily - a stress that most citizens could not handle. Being that PTSD is derived from their occupation, we believe it is warranted and justified for first responders to be able to receive workers compensation from this diagnosis.

Therefore, the Maryland Troopers Association supports HB 190 and requests a favorable report.

Brian Blubaugh President Maryland Troopers Association

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