

# **MCPA-MSA\_SB 1101 Scholarships and Police Officer R**

Uploaded by: Andrea Mansfield

Position: FAV



# Maryland Chiefs of Police Association

## Maryland Sheriffs' Association



### MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable William Smith, Jr., Chair and  
Members of the Judicial Proceedings 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: February 27, 2024

RE: **SB 1101 Scholarships and Police Officer Recruitment**

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) **SUPPORT SB 1101**. This bill provides a mechanism for awarding scholarships to advance education within the profession of law enforcement.

SB 1101 creates the Police Officers Educational Benefit Scholarship I and II for current or former certified police officers who live in the state or their dependents. The bill also requires law enforcement agencies to develop and implement policies for recruitment at historically black colleges and universities in the state.

MCPA and MSA appreciate and fully support the intent of this bill to advance educational opportunities for those who pursue a career in law enforcement. Historically, increased education and training requirements have long been topics of discussion in policing in the United States. August Vollmer (1876-1995), advocated the development of college education programs in police science and standardized training for police academies in an effort to produce professional and educated officers and police chiefs. In the 1960s, both the Kerner Commission and the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice recommended education requirements for hiring officers in order to employ better-qualified officers. In the 2015 President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing report, one of the pillars called for educational standards and increased ethics training in order to develop professionalism in policing.

Scholarships provide a reasonable and responsible approach to fostering educational opportunities for those law enforcement officers who desire to pursue advanced education. For these reasons, MCPA and MSA **SUPPORT SB 1101** and urge a **FAVORABLE** Committee report.

**BaltimoreCounty\_FAV\_SB1101.pdf**

Uploaded by: John Olszewski

Position: FAV

JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR.  
*County Executive*



JENNIFER AIOSA  
*Director of Government Affairs*

AMANDA KONTZ CARR  
*Legislative Officer*

WILLIAM J. THORNE  
*Legislative Associate*

**BILL NO.:**            **SB 1101**

**TITLE:**                Scholarships and Police Officer Recruitment

**SPONSOR:**           Chairman Smith

**COMMITTEE:**        Judicial Proceedings

**POSITION:**         **SUPPORT**

**DATE:**                February 27, 2024

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 1101 – Scholarships and Police Officer Recruitment, which will require law enforcement agencies in the State of Maryland to recruit for police officer applicants at Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Maryland.

SB 1101 will contribute to Baltimore County’s efforts to contact qualified candidates and hire quality applicants for law enforcement job opportunities. The Baltimore County Police Department currently attends recruiting events at Historically Black Colleges and Universities both in Maryland and outside the State. It is priority for the County and its Police Department to expand the applicant pool and the interest in law enforcement careers. Furthermore, it is crucial that the State of Maryland, local jurisdictions, and Police Departments collaborate to reach out to communities that have historically been the target of Police bias and are underrepresented in law enforcement roles in every capacity. Both the recruiting presence of the Police Department in these communities and the increased participation in the Police workforce by members of these communities contribute to mending longstanding divisions and bettering the Police workforce.

Baltimore County has led on attracting a more diverse for law enforcement roles through the Community Policing Partnership, a joint-initiative that is building new pathways for public safety-focused careers in Baltimore County and ensuring that the next generation of law enforcement reflects the diversity of our communities. In order to modernize current law enforcement institutions and attract a diverse pool of applicants, initiatives such as SB 1101 and the Baltimore County Community Policing Partnership must be pursued.

Accordingly, Baltimore County urges a **FAVORABLE** report on SB 1101 from the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee. For more information, please contact Jenn Aiosa, Director of Government Affairs at [jaiosa@baltimorecountymd.gov](mailto:jaiosa@baltimorecountymd.gov).

# **MCPA-MSA\_SB 1101 Scholarships and Police Officer R**

Uploaded by: Natasha Mehu

Position: FAV



# Maryland Chiefs of Police Association

## Maryland Sheriffs' Association



### MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable William Smith, Jr., Chair and  
Members of the Judicial Proceedings 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: February 27, 2024

RE: **SB 1101 Scholarships and Police Officer Recruitment**

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) **SUPPORT SB 1101**. This bill provides a mechanism for awarding scholarships to advance education within the profession of law enforcement.

SB 1101 creates the Police Officers Educational Benefit Scholarship I and II for current or former certified police officers who live in the state or their dependents. The bill also requires law enforcement agencies to develop and implement policies for recruitment at historically black colleges and universities in the state.

MCPA and MSA appreciate and fully support the intent of this bill to advance educational opportunities for those who pursue a career in law enforcement. Historically, increased education and training requirements have long been topics of discussion in policing in the United States. August Vollmer (1876-1995), advocated the development of college education programs in police science and standardized training for police academies in an effort to produce professional and educated officers and police chiefs. In the 1960s, both the Kerner Commission and the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice recommended education requirements for hiring officers in order to employ better-qualified officers. In the 2015 President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing report, one of the pillars called for educational standards and increased ethics training in order to develop professionalism in policing.

Scholarships provide a reasonable and responsible approach to fostering educational opportunities for those law enforcement officers who desire to pursue advanced education. For these reasons, MCPA and MSA **SUPPORT SB 1101** and urge a **FAVORABLE** Committee report.

**SB1101-JPR\_MACo\_SWA.pdf**

Uploaded by: Sarah Sample

Position: FWA



## **Senate Bill 1101**

### *Scholarships and Police Officer Recruitment*

MACo Position: **SUPPORT**

To: Judicial Proceedings Committee

**WITH AMENDMENTS**

Date: February 27, 2024

From: Sarah Sample

The Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) **SUPPORTS SB 1101 WITH AMENDMENTS**. This bill seeks to bolster diversity in the public safety workforce and enhance access to higher education for officers.

Law enforcement officials are the foundation of public safety. Broadening eligibility for funding from scholarship programs to long-term employees, and not just entry-level officers, sends an important message about how much governments and communities value these roles. This is a resource that local law enforcement agencies can use to build and sustain a qualified and enthusiastic workforce of employees while incentivizing their professional longevity.

Although the Tier I and Tier II scholarship opportunities outlined in the bill extend more resources for higher education to law enforcement officers, detention center employees take comparable risks and deserve equal consideration for incentives. Additionally, the opportunities outlined are only useful to the degree that they are resourced with appropriate funding. Counties appreciate the expanded opportunity for law enforcement but would encourage both the inclusion of corrections officers, as well as adequate funding for the programs.

Incentives and opportunities for continual growth and improvement are vital to ensuring employees see a fulfilling future for themselves in these critical public safety roles. MACo urges a **FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS** report for SB 1101.