



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: April 1, 2024

RE: **SB 190 – Law Enforcement – Wellness Checks – Requirements**

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) **SUPPORT SB 190 AS AMENDED**. This bill establishes requirements for law enforcement wellness checks.

Currently, officers perform wellness checks typically when a family member or friend requests an in-person visit out of concern for an individual's well-being. There are no laws mandating wellness checks, rather they are performed according to agency policy and best practices.

As introduced, MCPA and MSA had concerns with the ambiguity of several terms used in the bill and the broad nature of who could make the wellness check request. As amended, these issues have been addressed.

For these reasons, MCPA and MSA **SUPPORT SB 190** and urge a **FAVORABLE** committee report as amended.