

Working to end sexual violence in Maryland

P.O. Box 8782 Silver Spring, MD 20907 Phone: 301-565-2277 Fax: 301-565-3619 For more information contact: Lisae C. Jordan, Esquire 443-995-5544 www.mcasa.org

Testimony Supporting House Bill 115 Lisae C. Jordan, Executive Director & Counsel February 1, 2024

The Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MCASA) is a non-profit membership organization that includes the State's seventeen rape crisis centers, law enforcement, mental health and health care providers, attorneys, educators, survivors of sexual violence and other concerned individuals. MCASA includes the Sexual Assault Legal Institute (SALI), a statewide legal services provider for survivors of sexual assault. MCASA represents the unified voice and combined energy of all of its members working to eliminate sexual violence. We urge the Judiciary Committee to report favorably on House Bill 115.

House Bill 115 – Support for Victims & Survivors When Inmate is Released

This bill would require that a victim of a crime receive contact information for the lead victim witness coordinator at the State's Attorney's Office where the crime was committed when an inmate is released. MCASA fully supports providing victims and survivors with information and support throughout the criminal justice process, including when assailants are released from prison. We respectfully defer to the State's Attorneys' Association regarding whether this is the appropriate person.

The Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault urges the Judiciary Committee to report favorably on House Bill 115