

Maryland Chiefs of Police Association Maryland Sheriffs' Association



MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Guy Guzzone, Chair and

Members of the Budget & Taxation Committee

FROM: Darren Popkin, Executive Director, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee

Andrea Mansfield, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee Samira Jackson, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee

DATE: January 30, 2025

RE: SB 329 Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System - Benefit

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) **SUPPORT SB 329.** This bill increases the benefit multiplier from 2.0% to 2.5% for service earned on or after July 1, 2025 by members of the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System. Additionally, this bill increases the maximum benefit that certain retirees of the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System may receive from 65% to 70% of the member's average final compensation.

MCPA and MSA support this bill and believe that it exhibits a display of respect for the men and women to put their lives on the line to protect and serve their communities. The law enforcement profession is not an easy career path to take, but our officers show up every day and do their absolute best. This increase in our retirement benefit multiple is a well-received and much appreciated expression of appreciation for our public service work. In addition, this benefit increase may provide an incentive for people to enter and/or remain in this profession.

For these reasons, MCPA and MSA SUPPORT SB 329 and urge a FAVORABLE committee report