



Maryland Transportation Authority Police Lodge #34



President  
Jim Kruszynski III



Lodge Attorney  
Herbert Weiner

The Honorable Guy Guzzone.  
Budget and Taxation  
3 West Miller State Office Building  
11 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

February 25, 2025

**RE: Senate Bill 812 - Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System and State Police Retirement System - Line-of-Duty Catastrophic Injury Disability (SUPPORT)**

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Distinguished members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee,

On behalf of the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 34, representing almost 600 Maryland Transportation Authority Police Officers—active and retired—I write to strongly support Senate Bill 812. This bill will improve the LEOPS Accidental Disability Pension benefit for our members who suffer catastrophic injuries while performing their duties as Law Enforcement Professionals.

Day in and day out, our brave men and women in Law Enforcement put their lives on the line to protect our communities, uphold the law, and ensure our safety. Their work is not just a job—it's a calling that demands courage, resilience, and an unwavering commitment to justice. Yet, with this duty comes the ever-present risk of injury; sometimes, that injury is catastrophically life-changing. This risk is a reality we face each time we don our uniforms. From dangerous traffic stops to confronting armed suspects, the physical and emotional toll of our service is immense, and too often, we bear scars—seen and unseen—that last a lifetime. This bill will provide a crucial pension benefit when our officers suffer catastrophic injuries that prevent them from obtaining meaningful employment for the rest of their lives.

FOP Lodge 34 stands with our retirees, and this bill honors their dedication and lifetime of service to Maryland's citizens. Thank you for supporting our disabled retirees. We look forward to seeing this bill become law.

Sincerely,

Jim Kruszynski  
President  
FOP Lodge 34