



# Maryland Chiefs of Police Association

## Maryland Sheriffs' Association



### MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Brian Feldman, Chair and  
Members of the Senate Education, Energy, and Environment Committee

FROM: Darren Popkin, Executive Director, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee  
Andrea Mansfield, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee  
Samira A. Jackson, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee

DATE: March 11, 2025

RE: **SB 1024: Higher Education - Nonresident Tuition - Exemption for  
Dependents of State or Local Public Safety Employees**

POSITION: **FAVORABLE**

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) **SUPPORT** SB 1024. This bill clarifies that a financially dependent child who may reside in another state or another county whose parent is a state or local public safety official who dies in the line of duty is exempt from paying the out-of-state or out-of-county tuition rate at a public institution of higher education in Maryland.

Public safety professionals dedicate their lives to protecting and serving the people of Maryland. Tragically, some of these brave individuals do not return home. Their families, already burdened with immeasurable loss, should not also face financial barriers to higher education.

SB 1024 aligns with and builds upon similar legislation enacted across the country, including in Maryland where the dependents are residents. Children of law enforcement who do not live in the state of Maryland should be no exception. The legislation recognizes the sacrifices made and extends these benefits so that children of fallen heroes can pursue their academic and professional aspirations without undue financial burden.

For these reasons, the MCPA and MSA respectfully request a **favorable report** on SB 1024.