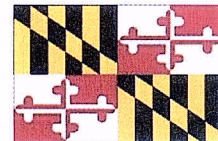




CLYDE BOATWRIGHT
STATE PRESIDENT

Maryland State Lodge
FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

8302 COVE ROAD, BALTIMORE, MD 21222



KENNY SCHUBERT
SECRETARY

EARL KRATSCH
TREASURER

January 14, 2025

Senate Bill 122: Hate Crimes – Law Enforcement Officers

Dear Chairman Smith and Distinguished Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee,

On behalf of the more than 20,000 courageous Women and Men of the Maryland Fraternal Order of Police, we ask for your **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 122: **Hate Crimes - Law Enforcement Officers**.

Americans have watched story after story of law enforcement officers being attacked without warning across this great country. These men and women are the most recognizable symbol of, not only, our government but also our freedoms. Over that last few years, Law Enforcement Officers have become an all too frequent target of those filled with hatred and anger. We have watched as several senseless acts of violence and vandalism have been committed against members and their property solely for the fact that they are a part of law enforcement.

In Maryland, we have had several officers that were attacked or killed in ambush style attacks simply because they were law enforcement officers. Our members have also had their personal property vandalized just because of who they are. We have also witnessed vandalism to Police Department property and Buildings, as well as one of our own local FOP Lodges, Baltimore City, FOP Lodge 3.

The men and women who bravely put on their uniforms and go out to protect and serve the citizens of Maryland deserve to feel safe, even though their very profession thrusts them into the perils of danger at any given moment. That is a choice and a call that each and every one of them has answered freely and voluntarily. What these men and women have not done, is asked to be victimized based on the very profession they have chosen or the calling that chose them. The attacks on law enforcement must stop. We must make every effort to deter these attacks while supporting our law enforcement officers. There is a clear and distinguishable line and burden of proof between simple assault on an officer, resisting arrest and clearly targeting an officer because of who they are that will allow for this bill if enacted to ensure it is properly used and enforced.

Please show your support for the women and men who protect us every day by voting **FAVORABLE** on Senate Bill 122 **Hate Crimes – Law Enforcement Officers**.

Sincerely,

Angelo L. Consoli Jr.,
2nd Vice President, FOP, Maryland State Lodge
President, FOP 89, Prince George's County