



Maryland State's Attorneys' Association

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DATE: February 10, 2025

BILL NUMBER: HB 789

POSITION: Favorable

The Maryland State's Attorneys' Association (MSAA) supports House Bill 789 and urges this Committee to issue a favorable report.

Prosecutors understand that the safety and security of all individuals involved in the judicial process – including judges, attorneys, court personnel, victims, defendants, witnesses, and the public – is paramount to the effective and fair administration of justice. The just adjudication of cases requires that courts and parties fulfill their constitutional obligations impartially, and they deserve to do so without fearing for their safety. Unfortunately, incidents of threats and violence related to the judicial process have increased in recent years – HB 789 takes an important step to address this by ensuring a level of security consistent across jurisdictions in Maryland. By issuing a favorable report on HB 789, this Committee will signal that fair and impartial justice is a priority to our State, and that we are willing to act to ensure everyone feels safe when they are in court.