



Maryland Chiefs of Police Association

Maryland Sheriffs' Association



MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Vanessa Atterbeary, Chair and
Members of the Ways and Means 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: February 25, 2025

RE: **HB 620 Primary and Secondary Education – Reportable Offense - Alteration**
HB 951 – School Systems – Reportable Offenses - Alterations

POSITION: LETTER OF INFORMATION

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) offer this letter of information on HB 620 and HB 951.

The reportable offense statute is intended to ensure law enforcement agencies and the State's Attorney's offices communicate with school systems at the time of arrest of specified crimes and then following the disposition of such charges. While school systems want to ensure a pragmatic response in the best interest of students, the reportable offense statute ensures the school system is informed and can respond accordingly to ensure the safety of students and staff following the arrest and before adjudication.

MCPA and MSA believe communication with the public regarding law enforcement actions is extremely important. This enables the public to take appropriate steps for their own safety. That same level of communication is important for school systems tasked with not only educating our children; but keeping them safe in a learning environment.

Recent situations have highlighted the disjointed flow of information between school systems, the Department of Juvenile Services, State's Attorney's Offices, and law enforcement. Before making changes to the reportable offense's statute, MCPA and MSA suggest a workgroup to bring all parties together to discuss the flow of information and develop recommendations to improve communication to ensure the safety of our schools.