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Legislative District 2B
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Appropriations Committee
Subcommittees

Oversight Committee on Personnel

Public Safety and Administration



The Maryland House of Delegates
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
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Mr. Chair, Madam Vice Chair, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify. For the record, my name is Delegate Matthew J. Schindler, and I am here to present House Bill 3. HB 3 is cross-filed in the Senate as SB 212 by Senator Corderman.

House Bill 3 would grant in-state or in-county tuition at a Maryland public institution of higher education to the dependents of state or local public safety employees who die in line of duty regardless of a dependent's residency.

Maryland has a long and proud track record of standing by the families of those who make the ultimate sacrifice in service to our communities. This bill builds on that commitment by ensuring that dependents are not denied educational opportunity because of circumstances created by tragedy.

After a line-of-duty death, families are often forced to make difficult decisions—whether to move closer to extended family, seek employment elsewhere, or simply find the support they need to heal. House Bill 3 ensures that when those decisions result in a move out of state, the dependent does not lose the benefit Maryland intended to provide. The sacrifice was made here, in service to Marylanders, and our obligation should not disappear because a family's address changes.

Over the past twelve years, thirty-two Maryland public safety employees have died in the line of duty. Each represents a family forever changed and a responsibility for our state to honor that sacrifice in a meaningful way.

House Bill 3 does exactly that. It affirms that Maryland looks after the families of its fallen heroes—not just immediately after tragedy, but in the years that follow, and regardless of where life may take them.

Thank you for your time, and I respectfully request a favorable report on House Bill 3.