



# Maryland Chiefs of Police Association

## Maryland Sheriffs' Association



### MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr., Chair and  
Members of the Judicial Proceedings 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: January 21, 2025

RE: **Senate Bill 38 - Vehicle Laws - Ignition Interlock System Program - Required Participation**

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) **SUPPORT SB 38**. Senate Bill 38 strengthens our state's ignition interlock system requirements and closes a critical gap that currently allows certain alcohol-related driving violators, particularly those under age 21, to regain or modify driving privileges without meaningful safety controls. Requiring ignition interlock participation as a condition for reinstatement, restricted licenses, or modification following suspension or revocation is an excellent strategy for reducing impaired driving. Ignition interlock devices are one of the most effective tools for ensuring drivers do not operate a vehicle after consuming alcohol.

SB 38 also provides needed accountability by establishing clear consequences for drivers who fail to complete the program and by ensuring that monitoring standards remain enforceable. For law enforcement, this translates into fewer impaired drivers on the road, fewer preventable tragedies at the local level, and reduced strain on emergency response systems, investigative units, and courts. SB 38 allows Maryland to continue to make meaningful progress in impaired driving prevention by advancing a targeted public safety measure that supports rehabilitation while prioritizing community safety.

For these reasons, MCPA and MSA **SUPPORT SB 38** and urge a **FAVORABLE** committee report.