



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: March 10, 2026

RE: **SB 913 – Motor Vehicles - Enhanced Tinted Windows - Medical Exemption**

POSITION: **OPPOSE**

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) **OPPOSE** SB 913. This bill expands the existing medical exemption for enhanced vehicle window tinting by allowing certifications from out-of-state physicians and by removing the current time limits that apply to those certifications. Under current law, individuals may already obtain a medical exemption allowing darker tint when medically necessary, but the certification must come from a physician licensed in Maryland and is subject to periodic review.

MCPA and MSA are concerned that expanding the exemption in this manner will create practical enforcement challenges for officers conducting traffic stops. Window tint laws exist in part to ensure officer safety by allowing officers to see into vehicles during roadside interactions. Allowing certifications from out-of-state physicians and eliminating the time limits for those certifications makes it more difficult for officers to verify the validity of exemptions in real time and increases the potential for misuse of the medical exemption.

Additionally, the current framework already provides a reasonable pathway for individuals with legitimate medical needs to obtain darker window tint while maintaining appropriate oversight through time-limited certifications. Removing these safeguards could undermine the intent of Maryland's window tint laws and complicate enforcement for officers in the field. For these reasons, MCPA and MSA **OPPOSE** SB 913 and respectfully request an **UNFAVORABLE** report on Senate Bill 913.