



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: February 19, 2026

RE: **SB 536 - Private Home Detention Monitoring Agencies - Notification of Violation**

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) **SUPPORT SB 536**. This legislation makes a necessary and commonsense adjustment to current law governing notifications to law enforcement regarding home detention monitoring violations.

Under existing statute, law enforcement agencies are required to receive notice for virtually any violation of a home detention monitor, regardless of severity or whether the conduct presents any public safety concern. This can include minor or technical deviations such as a defendant going to the grocery store, seeking medical treatment at a hospital, or other non-emergency movements. These notifications do not serve a worthwhile purpose and instead create an unnecessary administrative burden on law enforcement agencies that have no actionable role in responding to routine monitoring violations.

Importantly, law enforcement does not have independent authority to intervene or take enforcement action based solely on these generic notifications. The court is the only entity empowered to determine whether a violation warrants further consequences, including the issuance of an arrest warrant. Without such a warrant, law enforcement cannot step in absent an emergency circumstance, which would require police response regardless of whether the notification statute exists. As a result, these mandated notices consume time and resources through review, cataloging, and documentation, without any meaningful end goal or ability to act.

SB 536 ensures that law enforcement resources remain focused on situations where action is appropriate and authorized, while preserving the court's proper role in determining when violations rise to the level requiring enforcement intervention. For these reasons, MCPA and MSA **SUPPORT SB 536** and urge a **FAVORABLE** committee report.