



## **HB104 – Unhoused Individuals – Rights and Affirmative Defense**

MCAA Position: **SUPPORT W/ AMENDMENT** TO: Judicial Proceedings Committee

DATE: January 30, 2026

FROM: Christopher Klein, President  
Lamonte Cooke, Legislative Committee  
Mary Ann Thompson, Legislative Committee

The Maryland Correctional Administrator’s Association (MCAA), an organization comprised of our statewide jail wardens and administrators for the promotion and improvement of best correctional practices, appreciates the opportunity to provide information regarding HB 104.

Many local detention centers are on government campuses, generally to the rear of the properties near woods and tree lines. Unlike the State prison systems, which are built with fences and towers, local detention centers are built without fences. Correctional Officers are responsible for conducting and maintaining perimeter security for each shift, 24/7.

Respectfully request that the detention center and surrounding areas be exclusion zones and not accessible public spaces for homeless encampments to ensure the safety and security of the physical plant and for the correctional personnel who work around the clock.

The MCAA respectfully urges the committee to issue a **FAVORABLE report on House Bill 104, with the requested amendment.**