



Maryland Chiefs of Police Association Maryland Sheriffs' Association



MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable J. Sandy Bartlett, Chair and
Members of the House Judiciary 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 24, 2026

RE: **HB 762 - Law Enforcement – Use of Facial Recognition Technology – Images
Captured by Camera Affixed to Dwelling Exterior**

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) **SUPPORT** House Bill 762. HB 762 provides a responsible update to Maryland law that will assist law enforcement in investigating serious crimes committed outside the home, while preserving necessary protections regarding the use of facial recognition technology.

In many cases, evidence comes from doorbell cameras or exterior security systems. However, current law prohibits law enforcement from using facial recognition technology outside of a select few instances. This bill expands the use of facial recognition to crimes such as arson, burglary, trespassing, use of a vehicle on private property, and entry on property for the purpose of invading the privacy of its occupants. This authorization will assist law enforcement in rapidly identifying and apprehending dangerous offenders and prevent them from causing further harm.

HB 762 does not grant law enforcement broad surveillance authority but merely permits them to responsibly utilize available investigative technology when victims' own cameras record evidence of crimes committed outside their homes.

Granting law enforcement this authority will enable them to more efficiently solve crimes, identify offenders, recover stolen property, and improve public safety in Maryland communities. For these reasons, MCPA and MSA **SUPPORT** House Bill 762 and urge a **FAVORABLE** committee report.