



Maryland | Delaware | DC Press Association

P.O. Box 26214 | Baltimore, MD 21210

443-768-3281 | rsnyder@mddcpres.com

www.mddcpres.com

To: House Health Government Operations Committee

From: Rebecca Snyder, Executive Director, MDDC Press Association

Date: February 15, 2022

Re: **HB 395 - SUPPORT**

The Maryland-Delaware-District of Columbia Press Association represents a diverse membership of news media organizations, from large metro dailies like the Washington Post and the Baltimore Sun, to hometown newspapers such as The Annapolis Capital and the Maryland Gazette to publications such as The Daily Record, the Baltimore Times, and online-only publications such as MarylandReporter.com and Baltimore Brew.

The Press Association is pleased to support HB 395, which clarifies that public records include all communications made or received by a public official or employee of the state or political subdivision, whether those communications are written, electronic, or recorded audio or video.

We believe this is an important clarification that codifies that these records, regardless of format, and firmly places them under the Public Information Act.

The Press Association urges a favorable report.



**We believe a strong news media is
central to a strong and open society.**

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