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**Testimony to the House Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee
In Support of HB2518
February 11, 2020**

Chairman Jennings and Committee Members,

Our associations support HB2518 which will allow past convictions for domestic violence crimes to be counted toward the sentencing enhancements for multiple prior convictions when determining the sentence for domestic battery. Only those prior domestic violence convictions which the court has determined the evidence warrants a “domestic violence designation” would be included in the calculations.

Other domestic violence related crimes are often the precursors to domestic battery. In our opinion it is appropriate to consider those violations when looking at criminal history upon conviction of domestic battery.

We urge the committee to move this bill forward favorably.

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