

# MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

REPRESENTING THE VOLUNTEER FIRE, RESCUE, AND EMS PERSONNEL OF MARYLAND.



**Robert P. Phillips**

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## **HB 439 Workers' Compensation – Occupational Disease Presumptions – 9-1-1 Specialists**

My name is Robert Phillips and I am the Legislative Committee Chairman for the Maryland State Firefighter's Association (MSFA).

I wish to present testimony in favor of **HB 439: Workers' Compensation – Occupational Disease Presumptions – 9-1-1 Specialists**

This legislation is supported by the MSFA. We feel that the first link in the "Public Safety" chain is the 9-1-1 call taker. This person receives the call for assistance and starts the process to take care of the emergency. The call takers are subjected to the same mental trauma that the first responders face in the field, and should be considered to be affected in the same manner.

I thank the committee for their time on this important issue and ask that you **FAVORABLY** support House Bill 439.

Thank you and I'd be glad to answer any questions that you might have.