

MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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



Robert P. Phillips

Chair

Legislative Committee

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HB 335: Workers' Compensation – Occupational Disease Presumptions – First Responders

My name is Robert Phillips and I am the Legislative Committee Chair for the Maryland State Firefighters Association (MSFA)

I wish to present testimony of favorable with amendment on **House Bill 335: Workers' Compensation – Occupational Disease Presumptions – First 2 Responders**

This bill rightfully adds PTSD as a presumptive illness to existing legislature and the MSFA is in favor of that. Then the bill limits the treatment to two years from diagnosis. The term limit of two years is not enough time to treat some if not many of the cases of PTSD. The first responder service has seen many of its members affected by PTSD and two years has not been sufficient time for proper treatment and therapy. For this reason the MSFA is favorable of this bill with the amendment to eliminate the time limit on treatment.

I thank the committee for their time and attention to this important bill and ask that you vote favorable with the amendment on House Bill 335.

I will now be glad to answer any questions, or my contact information is listed above and welcome any further inquiries you might have.