

MIKE MCKAY
Legislative District 1
Garrett, Allegany, and Washington Counties



James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street, Room 416
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3565 · 301-858-3565
800-492-7122 Ext. 3565
Mike.McKay@senate.state.md.us

Judicial Proceedings Committee
Executive Nominations Committee

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

January 30, 2024

RE: Fire/EMS Coalition Support for House Bill 468

Dear Chairman Wilson, Vice Chairman Crosby, and Members of the Committee,

The Fire/EMS Coalition would like to express their support for House Bill 468: **Commission to Advance Lithium-Ion Battery Safety in Maryland**. The bill will establish the commission to advance lithium-ion safety in Maryland by requiring the commission to study the issue and make appropriate legislative, regulatory, programmatic, and other recommendations on/or before Dec. 1st, 2025. The commission will report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly.

The Fire/EMS Coalition supports House Bill 468 as it will be beneficial to public safety in Maryland as this bill would ensure that the state is properly informed of safety risk in regards to ion lithium batteries. Lithium batteries present a safety hazard in terms of battery fires due to their tendency to overheat. The Coalition supports this bill with an amendment to include the Maryland Fire Rescue Institute be a part for the safety of the general public of Maryland.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike McKay".

Senator Mike McKay
Representing the Appalachia Region of Maryland
Serving Garrett, Allegany, and Washington Counties

Voting Organizations:

Maryland Fire Chief's Association (MFCA)
Maryland State Firemen's Association (MSFA)
State Fire Marshal (OSFM)
Maryland Fire Rescue Institute (MFRI)
Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services System (MIEMMS)
Metro Fire Chief's Association

Professional Firefighters of Maryland

Our Mission Statement

The Maryland Fire/EMS Coalition unites Republicans and Democrats in support of fire/emergency services legislation that benefit all first responders. Becoming a member does not require taking positions on legislation; rather Coalition members are asked to offer support in a way that best benefits fire/emergency services in their respective Legislative Districts.