

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



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Judicial Proceedings Committee
Executive Nominations Committee

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

January 30, 2024

RE: Fire/EMS Coalition Support for House Bill 584

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

The Fire/EMS Coalition would like to express their support for House Bill 584: Workers' Compensation - Occupational Disease Presumptions - First Responders (Caring for Public Employees in the Safety Professions - CAPES Act). The bill will ensure firefighters in our state receive the proper care they deserve when injured in the line of duty. The proposed legislation will ensure that firefighters, firefighting instructors, rescue squad members, advanced life support unit members, and members of the Office of the State Fire Marshal who have thyroid, colon, or ovarian cancer are presumed, under certain circumstances, to have an occupational disease that was suffered in the line of duty and can receive compensation under workers' compensation law.

The Fire/EMS Coalition supports House Bill 584 as it will be beneficial to all emergency personnel in Maryland as they would be better able to provide for themselves and their families in case of long term health issues directly related to their work. The Coalition supports this measure to protect just compensation of firefighters and their families.

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.