

# HOUSE BILL 868

L2

6lr2302  
CF SB 516

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By: **Delegate McKay**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2016

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 13, 2016

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Washington County – Fire, Rescue, and Ambulance Service – Local Authority**

3 FOR the purpose of providing that the County Commissioners of Washington County are  
4 the ultimate authority having jurisdiction over the provision of fire, rescue, and  
5 ambulance services in Washington County.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
7 The Public Local Laws of Washington County  
8 Section 10–402  
9 Article 22 – Public Local Laws of Maryland  
10 (2007 Edition and October 2010 Supplement, as amended)

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
12 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Article 22 – Washington County**

14 10–402.

15 (a) The County Commissioners, with the advice of the Washington County  
16 Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association, Inc., by regulations adopted by the County  
17 Commissioners, may provide specifications for equipment, service area designations, and  
18 operations in the best interest of the volunteer fire, rescue, and ambulance departments in  
19 the county. Any volunteer fire, rescue, or ambulance department which is incorporated and  
20 approved and recognized by the Washington County Volunteer Fire and Rescue

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 Association, Inc., and the County Commissioners which does not meet the standards for  
2 equipment, service areas, or operations of the Washington County Volunteer Fire and  
3 Rescue Association, Inc., or any other criteria adopted by the County Commissioners is  
4 ineligible for any appropriations from the County Commissioners, and any appropriations  
5 may be denied, withheld, or curtailed. Any fire, rescue, or ambulance company or  
6 department failing to meet the requirements set by the County Commissioners shall  
7 suspend operations immediately after notification that a majority of the County  
8 Commissioners has directed the cessation of operations.

9 (b) The County Commissioners may provide loans to approved volunteer fire or  
10 rescue companies for the purchase of fire or rescue equipment, land, or buildings to be used  
11 by those companies. The loans shall be in the amounts and upon the terms as are approved  
12 by the County Commissioners.

13 (c) **THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ARE THE ULTIMATE AUTHORITY HAVING**  
14 **JURISDICTION OVER THE PROVISION OF FIRE, RESCUE, AND AMBULANCE SERVICES**  
15 **IN THE COUNTY.**

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
17 October 1, 2016.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.