

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2025 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

Senate Bill 164 (Senator Kagan)
Education, Energy, and the Environment

Terminology and Obsolete References - Maryland State Firefighters Association
and Related Terms

This bill alters terminology throughout the Annotated Code of Maryland so that (1) references to the Maryland State *Firemen's* Association are replaced with the Maryland State *Firefighters* Association, reflecting a recent name change; (2) references to the Disabled *Firemen's* and Rescue *Squadmen's* List are replaced with the Disabled *Firefighter's* and Rescue *Squad Person's* List; (3) references to “fireman” or “firemen” are replaced with “firefighter” or “firefighters;” and (4) references to “squadman” are replaced with “squad member.” **The bill takes effect July 1, 2025.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill's changes are technical in nature and do not affect governmental finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Generally, the Annotated Code of Maryland does not use gender-neutral language to refer to firemen and squadmen.

Additional Comments: The Maryland State Firefighters Association is a private, not-for-profit entity whose mission is to serve, promote, advocate, and represent the interest of the volunteer fire, rescue, and emergency medical services of Maryland. On

June 18, 2024, the association membership [voted](#) to change its name from the Maryland State Firemen's Association to the Maryland State *Firefighters* Association.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: HB 580 (Delegate Hutchinson, *et al.*) - Health and Government Operations.

Information Source(s): Maryland State Firefighters Association; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 4, 2025
km/lgc

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