



**CALVERT COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

175 Main Street
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Board of Commissioners
Mark C. Cox Sr.
Catherine M. Grasso
Earl F. Hance
Mike Hart
Todd Ireland

March 2, 2023

The Honorable Delegate Kumar P. Barve, Chair
Judiciary Committee
Room 251, House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: HB1178 – Calvert County - Length of Service Award Program - Benefits

Chair Barve:

The Board of County Commissioners for Calvert County writes in **SUPPORT** of **HB1178** and requests a **FAVORABLE** Committee report. This Bill represents our request to enhance the Length of Service (“LOSAP”) benefits for volunteer first responders. The requested modifications:

1. Change the LOSAP burial benefit to a death benefit and increase the benefit from \$6,000 to \$10,000 for a qualified volunteer who has completed 25 years of certified service;
2. Increase the burial benefit from \$240 to \$336 for each year of certified service;
3. Increase the LOSAP line of the duty death benefit, which is already an additional benefit notwithstanding any other benefit received, from \$6,000 to \$10,000; and
4. Authorize the County Commissioners to increase the benefit amount for all qualified individuals by a cost of living increase that corresponds with that afforded to County employees.

It is our intention that these benefit enhancements create further incentives for new and continued volunteerism with our many fire, rescue, and EMS organizations. Your thoughtful consideration of this request is sincerely appreciated. Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact County Administrator Julian M. Willis at 410-535-1600, extension 2202 or County Attorney John Norris at 410-535-1600, extension 2566. Thank you for your kind consideration of our position regarding this important local Bill.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND

Handwritten signature of Earl F. Hance in blue ink.

Earl F. Hance

Handwritten signature of Mike Hart in blue ink.

Mike Hart, Vice President

Handwritten signature of Mark C. Cox Sr. in blue ink.

Mark C. Cox Sr.

Handwritten signature of Catherine M. Grasso in blue ink.

Catherine M. Grasso

Handwritten signature of Todd Ireland in blue ink.

Todd Ireland

cc: Calvert County Senators and Delegation



Calvert County Volunteer Fire Rescue & EMS Association

P.O. Box 113

Prince Frederick, Maryland 20678

March 3, 2023

The Honorable Delegate Kumar P. Barve, Chair
Judiciary Committee
Room 251, House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: HB1178 – Calvert County - Length of Service Award Program – Benefits

Chair Barve:

The Calvert County Fire Rescue and EMS Association is looking for your support for HB1178 and respectfully requests a FAVORABLE Committee report. This Bill represents our efforts to enhance the Length of Service (“LOSAP”) benefits for our volunteer first responders. The requested modifications:

1. Change the LOSAP burial benefit to death benefit and increase benefit from \$6,000 to \$10,000 for a qualified volunteer who has completed 25 years of certified service;
2. Increase the burial benefit from \$240 to \$336 for each year of certified service;
3. Increase the LOSAP line of duty death benefit, which is already an additional benefit notwithstanding any other benefit received, from \$6,000 to \$10,000; and
4. Authorize the County Commissioners to increase the benefit amount for all qualified individuals by a cost-of-living increase that corresponds with that afforded to County employees.

It was our intention when addressing these benefit enhancements to create further incentives for our volunteer’s performing fire, rescue and EMS operations in Calvert County. Your understanding and consideration in this request is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact any of the following listed below. Thank you for your sincere consideration of our request regarding this recruitment and retention modification to our local Bill.

Respectfully,

J. W. Freesland III

POC:

President Freesland @ 410-474-6543

Vice President Patrick Hassler @ 443-532-4020

Chiefs Council Chair Michael Clark @ 301-399-9722

Secretary Lori Lodge @ 301-518-1930