



**March 1, 2024**

Senator Brian Feldman, Chair  
Senate Education, Energy and Environment Committee  
2 West, Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**Position: FAVORABLE**

Re: SB689 - Melanie Nicholle Diaz Fire Safety Act

The Professional Fire Fighters of Maryland is the state level affiliate of the International Association of Fire Fighters that represents more than 10,000 active and retired professional fire fighters and emergency medical services personnel who proudly serve the citizens of the State of Maryland.

We fully support SB689 as a critical piece of legislation that will implement and require certain fire safety requirements. NFPA 72 is the gold standard for installation of smoke detection equipment. The committee should resist any attempt to refer that matter to a workgroup which may result in further delays in implementing these important safety requirements that are designed to save lives and protect property.

On behalf of the members of Professional Fire Fighters of Maryland, we strongly urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 689.

Submitted respectfully,

Jeffrey Buddle, President  
Professional Fire Fighters of Maryland

*The membership of the Professional Fire Fighters of Maryland includes 27 IAFF local affiliates from the following jurisdictions:*

*Federal: Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Fort George G. Meade, National Capital Federal Fire Fighters, National Institutes of Health*

*State: Baltimore / Washington International Airport*

*Local: Annapolis City, Allegany County, Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City (2 affiliates), Baltimore County, Carroll County, Cecil County, Charles County, Cumberland City, Frederick County, Garrett County, Hagerstown, Howard County, Montgomery County, Ocean City, Prince Georges County, Queen Annes County, Salisbury, St. Mary County, Talbot County, Worchester County*