

# Maryland State Firefighters Association

Representing The Volunteer Fire, Rescue, And EMS Personnel of Maryland.



Legislative Committee  
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## SB 578: Professional and Volunteer Firefighter Innovative Cancer Screening Technologies Program – Funding

My name is Robert Phillips, I am the Legislative Committee Chair for the Maryland State Firefighters Association (MSFA). The MSFA represents the 25,000 plus volunteer Fire/EMS and Rescue first responders across the state.

I wish to present testimony **Favorable** of Senate Bill 578: Professional and Volunteer Firefighter Innovative Cancer Screening Technologies Program – Funding

The MSFA fully supports this bill. As we in the first responder ranks have worked to lower firefighter deaths, and succeeded, we have seen our firefighter deaths rise due to the environment in which we work. Cancer has become the number one reason of present and former firefighter's deaths. Studies have shown, and we all know, that early detection of cancer and early treatment greatly increase the chances of a longer life. This bill would just allow that monies can be applied to a fund for early screening of our first responders and hopefully more of our people will live a longer, happier life after putting their lives on the line every day for the public which they serve.

Thank you for your attention to this very important bill and I ask for your **favorable** report on SB 578.

I will be glad to answer any questions you may have.

BP

