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SB1030

April 1, 2025

TO: Members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee

FROM: Nina Themelis, Director of Mayor's Office of Government Relations

RE: SB1030 - Baltimore County and Baltimore City - Vehicle Laws - Lighting on Privately Owned Vehicles

POSITION: SUPPORT

Chair Korman, Vice Chair Boyce, and Members of the Committee, please be advised that the Baltimore City Administration (BCA) **supports** Senate Bill (SB) 1030.

SB 1030 clarifies existing state law to specifically authorize nonprofit volunteer emergency medical organizations with commercial ambulance services licenses in Baltimore City and Baltimore County to equip up to five of their highest-ranking officers' privately owned vehicles with emergency lights. These lights, which may be red or red-and-white, can only be used while the officers are en route to or at the scene of an emergency.

Baltimore City has a significant number of calls for service each year and nonprofit volunteer emergency medical organizations can provide critical support for calls for service when our emergency medical services teams are already deployed on calls throughout the City. Given that duly constituted volunteer fire departments or rescue squads are already authorized to equip and display this type of vehicle lighting, this legislation merely clarifies that nonprofit volunteer emergency medical organizations operating under a commercial ambulance service license are afforded the same permission.

For these reasons, the BCA respectfully requests a **favorable** report on SB 1030.