

MIKE MCKAY
Legislative District 1
Garrett, Allegany, and Washington Counties



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

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Judicial Proceedings Committee
Executive Nominations Committee

Joint Committees
Administrative, Executive,
and Legislative Review
Children, Youth, and Families
Program Open Space and Agricultural
Land Preservation

January 24, 2025

RE: Fire/EMS Coalition Support for SB173

Dear Chair Beidle, Vice Chairman Hayes, and Members of the Committee,

The Fire/EMS Coalition would like to express their support for Senate Bill 173:

Workers' Compensation – Occupational Disease Presumptions – Hypertension. This bill establishes that firefighters, fire fighting instructors, rescue squad members, advanced life support unit members, and members of the Office of the State Fire Marshal demonstrate disablement for purposes of workers' compensation and are deemed to have hypertension for purposes of an occupational disease presumption for hypertension if certain requirements are met.

The Fire/EMS Coalition supports this bill as it will allow for workers' compensation for a disease that is all too common amongst Fire/EMS workers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike McKay".

Senator Mike McKay
Representing the Appalachia Region of Maryland
Serving Garrett, Allegany, and Washington Counties

Voting Organizations:

Maryland Fire Chief's Association (MFCA)
Maryland State Firefighter's Association (MSFA)
State Fire Marshal (OSFM)
Maryland Fire Rescue Institute (MFRI)
Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services System (MIEMMS)
Metro Fire Chief's Association
Professional Firefighters of Maryland

Our Mission Statement

The Maryland Fire/EMS Coalition unites Republicans and Democrats in support of fire/emergency services legislation that benefit all first responders. Becoming a member does not require taking positions on legislation; rather Coalition members are asked to offer support in a way that best benefits fire/emergency services in their respective Legislative Districts.