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BWI AIRPORT PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS

AFFILIATED WITH THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS AFL-CIO-CLC
LOCAL 1742 – CHARTERED DECEMBER 7, 1967

02/16/2026

The Honorable Guy Guzzone

Chair, Budget and Taxation Committee

3 West Miller Senate Building

11 Bladen Street, Annapolis MD 21401

Favorable testimony- Senate Bill 28 Arbitration Reform for State Employees Act of 2026

Dear Chair Guzzone,

The IAFF Local 1742 represents the Women and Men of the BWI Airport Fire and Rescue department through the rank of captain. The BWI Airport Fire and Rescue Department is also the only group of Fire Fighters that are employees of The State of Maryland.

SB28 would truly give employees a fair process to bargain. As of now, most state employees have no path to resolution when bargaining ends in impasse; this bill would just give labor unions a fair seat at the table.

If you research jurisdictions that have binding interest arbitration, you will find that rarely is arbitration used. Instead, arbitration is used to encourage all parties to work in good faith to reach an agreement.

Please give SB28 a favorable committee report.

Sincerely,
Christian A. Rejonis

President- IAFF Local 1742