

SENATE BILL 473

E4, L2

5lr2267

By: **Senators Jennings and Brochin**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2015

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Baltimore County – Volunteer Fire, Rescue, and Ambulance Companies –**
3 **Funding Allocation**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring that in Baltimore County, a certain allocation of money from
5 the Senator William H. Amoss Fire, Rescue, and Ambulance Fund shall be
6 determined by a certain vote of certain individuals; and generally relating to the
7 allocation in Baltimore County of money from the Senator William H. Amoss Fire,
8 Rescue, and Ambulance Fund for volunteer fire, rescue, and ambulance companies.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Public Safety
11 Section 8–103(b)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2011 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
15 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article – Public Safety**

17 8–103.

18 (b) (1) In accordance with the formula provided in paragraph (2) of this
19 subsection, each county shall distribute a minimum percentage of funds that the county
20 receives from the Fund to volunteer fire, rescue, and ambulance companies.

21 (2) The percentage of funds required to be distributed by each county under
22 paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be equal to the same total percentage of funds
23 distributed by each county to volunteer fire, rescue, and ambulance companies from the
24 Fund in fiscal year 2011 or at least 51% of the allocation received by each county under
25 subsection (a) of this section, whichever is greater.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (3) [Each] **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (6) OF THIS**
2 **SUBSECTION, EACH** county shall distribute the money provided under this subsection on
3 the basis of need, as determined by the county, to volunteer fire, rescue, and ambulance
4 companies.

5 (4) In determining need under this subsection, the county shall consider:

6 (i) the failure to meet minimum standards established by the county
7 or the Maryland State Firemen's Association;

8 (ii) the existence or potential existence of an emergency situation as
9 described in § 8–203 of this title;

10 (iii) the age and condition of existing facilities and equipment;

11 (iv) the lack of availability of mutual aid;

12 (v) any service problems associated with demographic conditions;

13 (vi) a company's inability to raise money to pay for an item; and

14 (vii) any other relevant factors.

15 (5) This subsection does not apply to:

16 (i) Baltimore City; or

17 (ii) distributions made to fire, rescue, and ambulance companies,
18 departments, or stations located in qualified municipal corporations in accordance with
19 subsection (c) of this section.

20 **(6) IN BALTIMORE COUNTY, THE ALLOCATION TO VOLUNTEER FIRE,**
21 **RESCUE, AND AMBULANCE COMPANIES OF MONEY DISTRIBUTED UNDER THIS**
22 **SUBSECTION SHALL BE DETERMINED BY A TWO–THIRDS VOTE OF:**

23 **(I) THE PRESIDENT OF THE BALTIMORE COUNTY VOLUNTEER**
24 **FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, OR THE PRESIDENT'S DESIGNEE;**

25 **(II) THE CHAIR OF THE BALTIMORE COUNTY VOLUNTEER**
26 **FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION REVOLVING CAPITAL LOAN FUND, OR THE CHAIR'S**
27 **DESIGNEE; AND**

28 **(III) THE CHIEF OF THE BALTIMORE COUNTY FIRE**
29 **DEPARTMENT, OR THE CHIEF'S DESIGNEE.**

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
2 1, 2015.