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BILL NO.: **HB 486**

TITLE: The Corporal William Kyle Ferrell Emergency Vehicle Safety Act

SPONSOR: Delegate Cox

COMMITTEE: Environment and Transportation

POSITION: **SUPPORTS**

DATE: February 20, 2020

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 486 – The Corporal William Kyle Ferrell Emergency Vehicle Safety Act, which would authorize emergency personnel to equip privately owned motor vehicles with emergency lights for use at the scene of an accident or other emergency.

On a rainy night in September 2015, Corporal William Kyle Ferrell was killed in a hit-and-run after he pulled over on the side of U.S. 15 to help a neighbor with car trouble. His death was tragic and unnecessary. Nothing can bring him back, but by giving other Good Samaritans the ability to equip their motor vehicles with emergency lights, Maryland can hopefully prevent further calamities of this kind.

HB 486 expands on the current law, which only allows emergency lights on government fire vehicles and volunteer fire company vehicles. If enacted, this legislation would allow law enforcement officers and trained armed forces members to put lights on their personal vehicles. The legislation also addresses potential safety concerns regarding the lights – users can only activate them at the accident or emergency scene. By passing HB 486, we can honor Corporal Ferrell’s memory and protect future Good Samaritans.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 486. For more information, please contact Chuck Conner, Chief Legislative Officer, at 443-900-6582.