

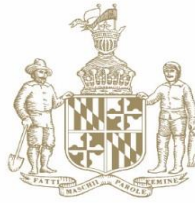
WILLIAM WIVELL
Legislative District 2A
Washington County

Environment and Transportation
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HB0810–Workers’ Compensation – Washington County – Volunteer Company – Fire and Rescue Academy Student

HB0810 recognizes and expands the tremendous partnership that we have in Washington County between our Board of Education, County Commissioners, and our Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association. The program trains high school juniors and seniors in firefighting and is taught by MFRI-qualified instructors. Under current law, one must be 16 years of age to be enrolled in firefighter training in order to be covered by workmen’s compensation insurance. This bill creates a very narrow exception to that requirement by stating that if an individual is at least 15 years of age, he or she is eligible to be covered by workmen’s compensation insurance if they are a member of a volunteer company in Washington County and are enrolled in the Fire & Rescue Academy operated by the Washington County Board of Education.

The bill has the support of our Board of Education, County Commissioners, the Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association, and the Washington County Delegation. Letters of support are attached.

This is an awesome program which trains future volunteers (and professional firefighters) in the area of fire and rescue and I ask for a favorable report. Thank you.