

SB 872

Income Tax - Subtraction Modification - Volunteer Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Medical Services

Support

Good Afternoon Committee Chairmen and Senators,

I would like to acknowledge State Senator Michael Jackson, District 27 for introducing SB0872 “Income Tax – Subtraction Modification for the Volunteer Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services.

The State of Maryland has always been a strong supporter of the Volunteer Fire Service and without your support neighborhoods would not get the fire protection needed to save lives and property.

Volunteers dedicate Countless hours and many days a week to respond to emergency, and provide fund raising efforts to purchase apparatus, equipment, and other fire protection needs. Many leave their families to provide adequate staffing at the fire station for many hours every day, while others respond to staff apparatus for emergencies.

COVID-19 was declared a pandemic March 2020, and this has placed a burden on staffing, apparatus for emergency calls and jeopardizing public safety persons and their families every day during this pandemic. This is very stressful when you spend numerous hours responding to assist

COVID-19 patients daily, and, crossing unknown paths of possible COVID-19 infected persons.

This pandemic will be here for quite some time and according to our health experts.

Your outstanding support for SB-0872 will show your support of your state fire and medical first responders, who provide emergency care and fire protections 365 days a year.

In ending, we thank you for supporting us during this pandemic.

[bio, my name is Edwin M. Lehan I have been a resident of the State of Maryland for 60 years and have been a Volunteer First Responder in Prince Georges County, MD since 1975, just completed my forty-fifth year (45) of dedicated service. I served at Bowie, Bladensburg and the past forty (40) years at Kentland Volunteer Fire Department #33. District of Columbia Fire and EMS Department since 1983 until present (38 years). Held ranks from Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain and Fire Chief at Kentland VFD, and have received numerous lifesaving awards and commodiations by Prince Georges County and the District of Columbia Fire Service.]

Sincerely,

Edwin Michael Lehan

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