

**Eastern Shore of Maryland
Volunteer Fireman's Association**



March 22, 2021

Del. Dereck Davis
Chairman, Economic Matters Committee
231 House Office Building
6 Bladen St.
Annapolis, MD 21401

Delegate Davis and Members of the Economic Matters Committee:

I would like to go on Record as supporting HB1247, "Worker's Compensation-Occupational Disease Presumption-COVID-19". I have been a member of the Chestertown Volunteer Fire Company for 47 years and am currently President of the Eastern Shore of Maryland Volunteer Fireman's Association. Members of my Fire Company and Association have gotten Covid-19 through patient contact while responding, both as Volunteer and Career Firefighters/EMS personnel.

Every day both Volunteer and Career Firefighters and EMS personnel come in contact with patients with Covid-19 and they should be assured that they are will covered under Workman's Compensation, if they get the virus and are out of work recovering from it. Please help to protect those brave men and women of the Fire and EMS profession who risk their lives daily to protect both you, me, and all others Marylanders each day.

Sincerely,

William L. Hildebrand