

MIKE MCKAY
Legislative District 1C
Allegany and Washington Counties

Appropriations Committee



Annapolis Office
The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 322
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3321 · 301-858-3321
800-492-7122 Ext. 3321
Mike.McKay@house.state.md.us

District Office
100 North Mechanic Street
Cumberland, Maryland 21502
240-362-7040

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 17, 2022

Appropriations Committee

House Office Building, Room 121

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chair McIntosh, Vice Chair Chang and Members of the Appropriations Committee,

The purpose of this letter is to urge a favorable report for HB574 Higher Education – Edward T. and Mary A. Conroy Memorial Scholarship Program and Jean B. Cryor Memorial Scholarship Program – Alterations.

This educational scholarship program for surviving family members of a fallen EMS, Firefighter, Correctional officers, Law Enforcement Officers or a Maryland National Guard members in a Line of Duty Death simply adds trade schools to the existing state benefit.

Baltimore Mayor Brandon Scott said (in a statement on January 24, 2022) the following about the Line of Duty of Deaths that had occurred in the morning.

“Today, Baltimore has lost three of the bravest among us: This is a gut wrenching tragedy for our city, the Baltimore City Fire Department, and most importantly the families of our firefighters. There are no words to describe the pain and the severity of the losses we have suffered today. My heart is with the Firefighters, their families, and the entire Baltimore City Fire Department who put the lives and safety of others before their own wellbeing each and every day. I ask that all of Baltimore keep them in our prayers during this extremely difficult time.”

Many students earn their degrees at traditional colleges or universities, but others find trade schools more suitable. Trade schools provide career-focused training for in-demand fields, which can be a practical choice for some careers. Additionally, trade schools offer short completion times and inexpensive tuition rates.

Therefore, I believe private career schools or “trade schools” should be included in the existing educational benefit for a fallen line of duty death.

I urge a favorable report of HB 508 because it is not what take when you leave this world but what you leave behind you. Let’s honor these Line of Duty Death family members, today.

Thank you,

Delegate Mike McKay

[Type here]