

# MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

REPRESENTING THE VOLUNTEER FIRE, RESCUE, AND EMS PERSONNEL OF MARYLAND.



**Robert P. Phillips**

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## **SB 751 First Responders and Emergency Responders – Definition – 9-1-1 Dispatchers Included**

My name is Robert Phillips and I am the Legislative Committee Chairman for the Maryland State Firefighter's Association (MSFA).

I wish to present testimony in favor of **Senate Bill 751: First Responders and Emergency Responders – Definition – 9-1-1 Dispatchers Included**

The MSFA fully supports this bill. We feel that the 9-1-1 dispatchers are the first link in the emergency responder chain. They are the ones that get the first call for help and are the ones that the public rely on till other help arrives on scene. They are the calming voice on the other end of the black box who give the public hope. Without their assistance the other first responders would not know where to go or the emergency at hand. When in the field they provide the communication to us when we need help.

I thank the committee for their time on this important issue and ask that you favorably support Senate Bill 751..

Thank you and I would be glad to answer any questions you might have.