

**Maryland Fire Chief's Association
Legislative Committee**

Hon. William C. Smith, Chair
Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

February 1, 2022

Dear Chairman Smith,

The Maryland Fire Chief's Association represents the Operational Leadership of our State's Fire and Rescue Services. We Stand united with Our State's other Fire and Emergency service organizations in **Support of Senate Bill 38**.

Many of us have, or have had, dogs as family members over the years, and we recognize that the dogs that have served as working dogs with Fire and Rescue Organizations are a special type of dog. The Training regimen for these dogs, their working conditions, and many other things make them deserving of the level of care that would be provided to anyone working with them.

The cost of providing care for these dogs should not totally fall on the shoulders of their family and caregivers, The work that these dogs have done should be recognized by the coverage that **Senate Bill 38 will provide**. With that in mind, **We Strongly Support Senate Bill 38**, And respectfully request a favorable report out of Committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harve E. Woods, Chairman,
Legislative Committee,
Maryland Fire Chief's Association