

CHARLES COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC. AND

CHARLES COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, INC.**

P.O. Box 21, La Plata, Maryland 20646



HB 1416: Charles County Property Tax – Credit for Volunteer Emergency Responders

Good afternoon, Madam Chair and members of the Ways and Means Committee. My name is Bill Smith, and I am the Fire/EMS Coordinator for the Charles County Volunteer Fire and EMS Association, Inc. I am here this afternoon representing the over 1200 volunteer Fire/EMS members and 18 volunteer Fire/EMS department across Charles County to testify in favor of HB 1416 sponsored by the Charles County Delegation. This bill when approved will provide "property tax relief" for approximately 490 volunteer Fire/EMS who reside in Charles County and provide outstanding 24/7 service to the residents and visitors who live and play in our county.

In closing, this legislation will greatly enhance our retention of the volunteer members within our county as well as used as a recruitment tool to add to the benefit of being a volunteer in Charles County. We look forward to collaborating with Charles County government moving forward to discuss future "tax relief" and we thank each of you in advance for this outstanding legislation. We thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Rick Bowie

President

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Charles County Volunteer Fire Association

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