

SB 0970 - SUPPORT

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**Fire Protection and Prevention – Sprinkler Systems and Smoke Alarms Requirements
(Melanie Diaz Sprinklers Save Lives Act)**

Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

March 15, 2023

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee:

My name is Yuan Zhou and I am writing to express my personal support in favor of bill SB-0970.

Melanie Diaz was a friend and her passing was a loss to our community. She had worked passionately to promote a better world both in her personal and professional relationships. But those projects will sadly never come to pass due to a regrettable and entirely avoidable fire, and her life was mercilessly cut short at the young age of 25. I urge the local governments of Maryland and Montgomery County to pass any and all legislation in support of strengthening safety precautions against fires.

I urge a favorable report on SB 0970.