

SB1292- SUPPORT
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SB0970 Written Support

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

Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

March 15th, 2023

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

My name is Even Roblero, I am a mother of four and I consider Melanie Diaz a sister to me having been in partnership with my brother for many years. Melanie Diaz was a sweet caring person, being a part of my family she always knew how to love my children. We celebrated many birthday occasions, graduations and holidays. The morning of Saturday, February 18th, my sister, Odalys informed me she was meeting up with Melanie and I was going to tag along not knowing hours later she was gone. She stayed with my grandmas in Silver Spring, Md often with my brother falling in love with Silver Spring and moving into the area. She felt safe and comfort in the community. Her dogs were her children and I cannot imagine how she struggled with her dogs following all the safe steps to get out of the fire. She had put a harness on both of her dogs and put the smaller one, Ella, in a pet carrier. It isn't fair to imagine people with disabilities or children or elderly people rushing out without a fair alarm system or sprinklers to reduce the smoke and give an opportunity of survival. Melanie was more than the woman who died in the Arrive Apartments, She was a selfless, honorable being who always stayed positive when moments were sometimes hard. That is why I support Bill SB0970.