

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 0917

Chairman Smith, Vice-Chairman Waldstreicher, Committee Members. My name is Ben Kurtz, President of the Maryland State Firemen's Association and the 365 Volunteer Fire/EMS Companies and Departments.

I'm testifying in favor of SB 0917 for the safety of the men and women of the Fire Police that direct traffic on the roadways and emergency scenes. All of us have come up on a Motor Vehicle Collision or other emergency scene where the brake lights and emergency red lights blend all together.

The Fire Police would like to have red and white lights for their personnel vehicle when they are on the scene directing traffic. In the Maryland Code Fire Police members can only activate their emergency lights on their vehicle only when they are stationary and or parked at the scene. They cannot use their emergency lights driving to the scene.

I'm asking the committee for a favorable vote. I would like to thank Delegate Dana Stein for sponsoring Senate Bill 0917.

Respectfully submitted,

Benjamin W. "Ben" Kurtz, President

Maryland State Firemen's Association