



Maryland Municipal League
The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

February 28, 2024

Committee: House Appropriation Committee

Bill: HB 900 – Employment Standards - Firefighters - Payment of Overtime and Payroll Information

Position: Unfavorable

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League opposes House Bill 900, which would require overtime pay for paid firefighters in excess of 168 hours over a 28-day period, more payroll information, and codify a process for grievances.

While there are relatively few municipalities that employ firefighters – vs. utilizing a volunteer force – these benefits are traditionally collectively bargained alongside other benefits. Passage of HB 900 would likely reopen those negotiations. Further, there could be additional costs related to the payment of overtime or hiring more employees. Together, and potentially in concert with other legislation being considered this year, this bill may make it more difficult for the remaining paid programs to continue.

For these reasons the League respectfully requests that this committee provide House Bill 900 with an unfavorable report.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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