

**MIKE MCKAY**  
*Legislative District 1*  
Garrett, Allegany, and Washington Counties



James Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street, Room 416  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3565 · 301-858-3565  
800-492-7122 Ext. 3565  
Mike.McKay@senate.state.md.us

Judicial Proceedings Committee  
Executive Nominations Committee

**THE SENATE OF MARYLAND**  
**ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401**

January 30, 2024

RE: Fire/EMS Coalition Support for House Bill 899

Dear Chairman Barnes, Vice Chairman Chang, and Members of the Committee,

The Fire/EMS Coalition would like to express their support for House Bill 899: Higher Education - Firefighters and EMS Recruitment and Retention - Scholarship and Loan Repayment Assistance. This bill entails altering the Charles W. Riley Firefighter and Ambulance and Rescue Squad Member Scholarship to make the scholarship applicable to all programs at institutions of higher education in the State. The bill proposes altering the maximum award available, when a scholarship should be credited, and to whom initial awards should be provided under the scholarship. The bill establishes the Maryland Loan Repayment Assistance Program for Firefighters and Emergency Medical Services Providers and provides for the administration of the loan repayment program.

The Fire/EMS Coalition supports House Bill 899 for the advancement of first responders in our state, The Coalition supports this bill for the benefit of higher education for our state's first responders.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike McKay".

Senator Mike McKay  
Representing the Appalachia Region of Maryland  
Serving Garrett, Allegany, and Washington Counties

**Voting Organizations:**

**Maryland Fire Chief's Association (MFCA)**  
**Maryland State Firemen's Association (MSFA)**  
**State Fire Marshal (OSFM)**  
**Maryland Fire Rescue Institute (MFRI)**  
**Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services System (MIEMMS)**  
**Metro Fire Chief's Association**  
**Professional Firefighters of Maryland**

***Our Mission Statement***

The Maryland Fire/EMS Coalition unites Republicans and Democrats in support of fire/emergency services legislation that benefit all first responders. Becoming a member does not require taking positions on legislation; rather Coalition members are asked to offer support in a way that best benefits fire/emergency services in their respective Legislative Districts.