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KIRK G. SIMPKINS

February 20, 2024

Environment and Transportation Committee
The Honorable Marc Korman
Room 251
House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: HB976 - Increase to Somerset County Fire Company Appropriation

Dear Delegate Korman and Committee Members:

The Somerset County Commissioners wish to express their support of HB976 (Increase to Fire Company Appropriation) to be effective July 1, 2024, per Local Code 2-304, to appropriate and levy annually the increased amounts for the use of the organized volunteer fire companies in Somerset County.

The last increase awarded to our fire companies ended in 2024, and due to economic conditions, the need to increase the incremental funding is utmost importance. Approval of this proposed legislation would allow the 2% annual step increase to run out through 2030. This appropriation, funded through the county budget, for FY2025 shall remain in effect for subsequent fiscal years unless altered by future enactment.

The Board of Commissioners for Somerset County therefore respectfully asks your favorable response regarding HB976.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Charles Laird'.

Charles Laird
President

Cc: Senator Carozza