

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 1221

Dear Chairmans Korman and Wilson, Vice Chairs Boyce and Crosby, and Members of the respected Committees,

The Fire/EMS Coalition would like to express their support for House Bill 1221: Battery Storage and Solar Arrays Safety Training Grant Program and Fund. The bill will establish the Battery Storage and Solar Arrays Safety Training Grant Program in the Maryland Energy Administration to provide grants to the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute to train local fire departments on certain safety aspects associated with lithium-ion battery storage systems installed with solar arrays. The bill will require the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute to consult with certain entities in determining how to meet the purpose of the Program with the grants awarded under the Program.

The Fire/EMS Coalition supports House Bill 1221 as it will be beneficial to the general safety of the public and advance safety practices related to lithium-ion battery storage in Maryland. The Coalition supports this important safety effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read '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.