

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



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Judicial Proceedings Committee
Executive Nominations Committee

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

January 30, 2024

RE: Fire/EMS Coalition Support for House Bill 823

Dear Chairs Korman and Atterbeary, Vice Chairs Boyce and Wilkins, and Members of each of the Committees,

The Fire/EMS Coalition would like to express their support for House Bill 823: Fire Protection and Prevention - Residential Rental Property - Requirements (Melanie Nicholle Diaz Fire Safety Act). The bill will establish requirements relating to the installation of certain fire safety equipment in residential rental high-rise buildings and other properties. This bill also authorizes the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City or the governing body of a county or municipal corporation to grant, by law, a certain property tax credit. This bill establishes the Workgroup to develop Fire Safety Best Practices for Pre-1974 High-Rise Buildings and requires the Workgroup to make reports on its findings and recommendations. These reports would need to be finished on or before December 31, 2024.

The Fire/EMS Coalition supports House Bill 823 as it will be beneficial to public safety in Maryland as this bill would ensure that buildings include proper fire safety equipment. This bill also promotes safety and education through the reporting of the workgroup findings. The Coalition supports this bill for the safety and welfare of the general public of Maryland.

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.