



# FREDERICK

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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The Honorable Joseline Pena-Melnyk  
Health and Government Operations Committee, Chair  
House Office Building, Room 241  
Annapolis, MD 21401

March 5, 2024

Re: HB 1110 – Maryland Intrastate Emergency Management Assistance Compact - City of Frederick

Dear Chair Pena-Melnyk:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of HB 1110 – Maryland Intrastate Emergency Management Assistance Compact – City of Frederick. We are grateful for Delegates Kerr and Simpson for their leadership on this matter.

The City of Frederick is responsible for the preservation of life, reduction of property loss, and protection of the environment from the threat of natural, technological, and human caused hazards. Responding to and recovering from incidents begins and end at the local level. Thus, emergency management operations before, during, and after an incident, are a core obligation of the City.

The purpose of this Compact is to provide for emergency management mutual assistance between the jurisdictions entering this Compact. It also provides for mutual cooperation in emergency management related exercises, testing and other training activities.

The City of Frederick is the 2nd largest city in MD with over 82,000 residents, larger than all the other City's currently participating in the compact excluding Baltimore City. The City now has a full-time Emergency Manager in an established Office of Emergency Management. The Office of Emergency Management is responsible for coordinating resource support to on-scene incident personnel.

During an emergency or disaster, vital resources sometimes exceed or overwhelm local capabilities. The City needs to ensure critical resources can be obtained when needed. Adding the City of Frederick as a participating jurisdiction would streamlines resource requests during a time of emergency for a quicker response to stabilize incidents or disasters by making requests directly to other authorized representatives in the compact with coordination by MDEM. The City would still first request resources and mutual aid assistance from Frederick County before

initiating a MIEMAC request. Additionally, the other members can benefit as the City can provide critical resources to other participating jurisdictions.

Allowing the City to become a member of this Compact would significantly increase the capability to provide critical resources before, during, and after a disaster or emergency.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.