



Career Fire Fighters Association of Frederick County, MD Inc.  
International Association of Fire Fighters Local 3666  
Affiliated with:  
Maryland State Professional Fire Fighters Association and The Central Maryland Labor Council / AFL-CIO



## SUPPORT

**SB 1024: Higher Education - Nonresident Tuition - Exemption for Dependents of State or Local Public Safety Employees (Maryland Fallen Heroes Tuition Benefits Act)**

**Sponsored by: Senator Corderman**

**Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee**

**Hearing 3/11 at 1:00 p.m.**

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and Members of the Committee,

I write as the President of the Career Firefighters Association of Frederick County, Maryland (IAFF Local 3666) - Frederick County's public employee organization that represents the over 600 men and women employed with the Frederick County Division of Fire and Rescue. I am writing to express my support for SB 1024.

This legislation would offer a new death benefit for Maryland's public safety professionals who perish in the line of duty. On August 11, 2021, Battalion Chief Josh Laird made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty while protecting the people of Maryland. Josh's family, his brothers and sisters in our Department, and the citizens of Frederick County grieve his loss every day.

Respectfully, those we have lost in the line of duty didn't serve a single county or city—they served Maryland. These sacrifices are not limited by state lines, and the benefits owed to their families should not be either. By passing SB1024, this Committee will ensure that the dependents of fallen first responders, regardless of where they reside, receive the in-state tuition assistance that recognizes their loss and honors their parent's sacrifice.

We urge this committee to issue a favorable report on this bill.

Sincerely,

Stephen Jones, President, IAFF Local 3666

Contact: Katie Nash  
katie@energyadvocacy.com  
301.524.9142