



January 28, 2025

Dear Vice President Holtlander,

The epidemic of cancer among firefighters has emerged as one of the most significant threats to the American Fire Service. Each day, thousands of firefighters are exposed to harmful toxins and carcinogens while performing their duties. Scientific evidence consistently demonstrates that early detection can significantly reduce the risk of being diagnosed with this devastating disease.

The mission of the Firefighter Cancer Support Network (FCSN) is to assist firefighters, EMS providers, and their immediate families who have been diagnosed with cancer by providing badge-to-badge support, training, and guidance. We are committed to ensuring that these heroes do not face cancer alone. Additionally, we strive to educate fire and EMS members about the importance of regular cancer screenings and early detection as a proactive measure to protect their health.

We are very pleased to support Maryland Senate Bill 374 - Health Insurance – Cancer Screening for Professional Firefighters – Required Coverage (James “Jimmy” Malone Act). This critical legislation represents a significant first step in enabling firefighters to recognize symptoms of this life-threatening disease early and receive timely treatment that can dramatically improve their chances of survival.

On behalf of the Firefighter Cancer Support Network, thank you for your unwavering support of the American Fire Service and your commitment to protecting those who risk their lives to protect us.

Sincerely,

*Joseph O. Schumacher*

Joseph O.E. Schumacher  
Chief Operations Officer

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