

JOHNNY RAY SALLING
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Budget and Taxation Committee

Public Safety, Transportation,
and Environment Subcommittee



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Chair Pamela Beidle
Vice Chair Antonio Hayes
3 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Finance Committee, thank you for the opportunity to present Senate Bill 119.

Senate Bill 119 simply codifies in law that the name of the collapsed Francis Scott Key Memorial Bridge remains the Francis Scott Key Memorial Bridge once it is rebuilt.

Early in the morning of March 26th, 2024, I, and many others, awoke to the shocking news of the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge. It was hard to believe that such a historic and iconic bridge was gone in the matter of seconds, and I pray for the families of those who were lost.

In the following days and weeks, we were a witness to the resiliency of the people of Baltimore, and I am appreciative of the efforts of the General Assembly, our Governor, and our federal, state, and local partners, who made it a priority to address this issue and support the local community.

The Francis Scott Key Bridge was an iconic symbol in the city of Baltimore and the State of Maryland. It represented not only the deep history of our state and country, but also our economy and the working-class communities of Baltimore.

Over the course of its lifespan, the Key Bridge carried millions of people and served as a vital link for goods and vehicles coming in and out of the Port of Baltimore, where thousands of Marylanders make a living and grow our economy.

I hope you will join me in honoring the legacy of the Key Bridge by supporting this bill and codifying that name remains the Francis Scott Key Memorial Bridge.

Thank you again for the opportunity to present this bill. I ask for a favorable committee report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Johnny Ray Salling".

Senator Johnny Ray Salling