



Hatzalah of Baltimore Inc.

www.hatzalahbaltimore.org

2930 Taney Road * Baltimore, Maryland 21209 * 410-585-0054* office@hatzalahbaltimore.org

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To Whom It May Concern,

Hatzalah of Baltimore proudly supports SB1030 and HB1520, which protect our use of emergency lights. Our mission is to deliver rapid, life-saving care throughout Baltimore City and surrounding County areas, supplementing 911 services when every second counts.

In 2020, increased call volumes and local congestion pushed our average response time to 5 minutes—an unacceptable delay in emergencies. By obtaining MVA approval to equip select senior officers' vehicles with emergency lights for high-priority calls, we reduced our response times to approximately 2.5–3 minutes. Over the past four years, we have consistently demonstrated safe and responsible use of this capability, while continuing to pursue additional measures to further reduce response times.

Our volunteer-based model—leveraging fully equipped volunteers and coordinated efforts with municipal services—has been refined since the 1960s and successfully adopted by Hatzalah organizations worldwide. Since our inception in 2005, this approach has enabled us to ensure that every individual in need receives immediate care, regardless of background.

We believe the proposed legislation is crucial to safeguarding our operational integrity and advancing our life-saving mission. By supporting the continued, well-regulated use of emergency lights, this bill ensures that Hatzalah of Baltimore remains responsive, effective, and innovative in delivering emergency medical care.

Thank you for your commitment to enhancing public safety.

Sincerely,

Eli Goldstein
Elimelech Goldstein
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Secretary

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