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TESTIMONY ON SB#/0621- POSITION: FAVORABLE

Public Safety - State Fire Prevention Code - Trash and Recyclable Materials

TO: Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and members of the Education, Energy and the Environment Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB#/0621, **Public Safety - State Fire Prevention Code - Trash and Recyclable Materials**

This bill is personal to me; my daughter-in-law is a Captain in the Montgomery County Fire Department. This is a bill to have Maryland adopt national standards governing placement of trash and recycling in specific locations that support protection of life and safety.

The bill requires the State Fire Prevention Commission to adopt regulations that incorporate by reference sections 30.7.5 and 31.7.5 of the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) Life Safety Code (2024 Edition) and authorize the placement of trash and recycling in corridors and exits in accordance with the NFPA Life Safety Code.

To protect our first responders Maryland should use the most up-to-date life safety codes.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on SB#/0621.