

# MARYLAND STATE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

*-a 501(c)(3) organization*

*Representing the Volunteer Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services Personnel*



## **Legislative Committee**

17 State circle

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## **SB479: Environment - Building Energy Performance Standards and Energy Use Intensity Targets - Exemptions**

My name is Chief Robert Phillips, and I am the Legislative Committee Chair for the Maryland State Firefighters Association (MSFA)

I wish to present testimony in FAVOR of **Senate Bill 470: Environment - Building Energy Performance Standards and Energy Use Intensity Targets - Exemptions**

The MSFA is fully in favor of this bill. The volunteer fire service does not operate on large budgets and is not in business to make money. For the most part we operate on a near zero net gain as every dollar that is earned by us or donated to us goes to help maintain our very expensive equipment. To have to replace something on a calendar schedule rather than a need to replace schedule could very well cause us to spend money before we were scheduled to. This bill allows us to proceed with our normal replacement schedules and not be a position of equipment replacement before we had planned to when it was purchased. The planned replacement of the equipment is a large enough cost. Then we need to include the cost of leaving oil and gas and changing it to all electric which will require service upgrades to account for the added load of heating. Along with that our present back-up generators may not be of sufficient capacity to run our buildings on when we include the load increase to make up for the oil or gas conversion. With all of this being said the longer we have to plan and save, the better we will be.

The MSFA asks that you return a **Favorable** report on **SB479**.

Thank you and I would be glad to answer any questions you might have.

Respectfully

*Robert Phillips*

