

# 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

Annapolis, MD 21401

Chair: Chief Robert Phillips

Office: 410-974-2222

Cell: 443-205-5030

Email: rfcchief48@gmail.com

## **HB848: Public Safety – State Fire Prevention Code – Trash and Recyclable Materials**

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 opposed to **House Bill 848: Public Safety – State Fire Prevention Code – Trash and Recyclable Materials**

The MSFA is opposed to this bill. We understand that this type of collection presently takes place and for the most part has had no issues. We feel that given enough time there will be an issue with life safety due to trash/garbage containers being left in the exit ways of buildings when first responders are entering the buildings and people are trying to exit the buildings during an emergency. The MSFA feels that there are ways to make this a more safe situation and that there should be further work and study put into this before passing a bill, then finding out there are life safety problems which could have been avoided. One example would be limiting the use of this service to only buildings that have fully sprinklered hall/exit ways to protect people who are trying to get out of a building while first responders are entering the building.

The MSFA asks that you return an **UNFAVORABLE** report on **HB848**.

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

Respectfully

*Robert Phillips*

