

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE REPORT
2023 Legislative Session

Reference No.:	CB-083-2023
Draft No.:	1
Committee:	Health, Human Services, and Public Safety
Date:	09/21/2023
Action:	FAV

REPORT: Favorable 5-0: Council Members, Oriadha, Blegay, Burroughs, Dernoga, and Franklin

The Health, Human Services, and Public Safety Committee (HHSPS) convened on September 21, 2023, to consider CB-083-2023, draft 1A; An Act Concerning Training Requirements for Volunteer Firefighters, for the purpose of updating the training requirements for volunteer firefighters, volunteer line officers, and volunteer chief officers according to the national standards, and to streamline the process of updating the standards to Fire/EMS General Orders.

This legislation endorses the adoption of updated minimum training requirements for volunteer firefighters, volunteer line officers, and volunteer chief officers in the Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department. This plan would bring our operational volunteer members up to date on today's national training standards. Fire Chief Green and Assistant Chief Michael White described the rationale and intended effects of the legislation, which is to ensure the entire department is using the same nationally approved training standards.

During the meeting, Volunteer Fire Fighters expressed concerns about the legislation and recent changes. It was clarified that changes to the new draft, 1A, were technical in nature and not substantially different from the original. It was also clarified that the changes are due to the goal of all career and volunteer staff following national training standards.

The Office of Law provided a statement noting the legislation is legally sufficient, and in proper legislative form with no legal impediments to its enactment.

Sakinda Skinner, County Council Liaison, stated that the County Executive is in support of the legislation.

After discussion, the Health, Human Services, and Public Safety Committee voted favorably, 5-0