

Maryland Candidates Questionnaire

1-Do you support maintaining Current level of Budget Funding for the Maryland State Firemen's Association?

Yes No

2-Will you support putting additional loan funds in the VCAF (Volunteer Company Assistance Loans) program so that more low interest loans can be made through the Maryland Military Dept and the Maryland State Firemen's Association?

Yes No

3-Do you understand the critical situation of the Volunteer Fire and Rescue System in Maryland and support additional State Benefit incentives (additional income tax deductions/reduction of state fees) for Volunteer Fire and EMS personnel?

Yes No

4-Would you support state funded accessibility to family Health insurance for volunteer fire and rescue personnel?

Yes No

This would be a tremendous way to attract and keep volunteers if the state is able to fund it without raising taxes.

5-Would you support modifying the Workmen's Compensation Insurance allocation model for Fire/EMS Assumption Claims to be pro-rated by the claimant's employment or volunteer service location rather than the current last exposure insured.

Yes No

I believe there will be more opportunities for more compensation if the allocation is prorated.

6-Would you support additional funding models for fire and rescue services in Maryland?

Yes No

It is good to evaluate funding models periodically and compare with other states, looking for better ways of meeting the needs as these needs fluctuate over time.

7-Would you support providing additional funding for the rural counties to raise the compensation level of EMT's and Paramedics in each jurisdiction to reduce the critical EMT/Paramedic Shortage in rural areas?

Yes No Maybe

I was able to find an article that showed some staggering statistics about rural Americans being older, sicker and poorer on average. Plus only 9% of practitioners practice in rural areas. So while the numbers are smaller, there are other challenges in rural areas. So, the EMT/ Paramedic shortage is even more reason to raise their pay. Before I can say "yes" to this question, I would need to do a more in depth study and talk to stakeholders.

Would you support legislation for any of the above issues – Please indicate below:

Yes, I would work with MSFA leaders to examine their legislative priorities and would support improving the funding model.

It is critical to maintain facilities and to keep equipment running well and it is important to be able to attract quality volunteers who feel valued enough to stay and continue to serve our communities.