

Revised Resolution No. 67

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT: Resolutions

Re: Censure City of Annapolis Alderman Rob Savidge

1 WHEREAS, the members of the Annapolis
2 Professional Firefighters, IAFF Local 1926,
3 represent approximately 133 active and retired
4 firefighters, paramedics, and officers serving the
5 residents, businesses, and visitors of the City of
6 Annapolis; and

7 WHEREAS, the City of Annapolis is a diverse
8 and growing community of approximately 41,000
9 residents, serving as Maryland's capital city and
10 welcoming millions of visitors annually, creating
11 significant demands on public safety services,
12 emergency medical response, and fire protection; and

13 WHEREAS, the Annapolis Fire Department has
14 experienced a continued increase in emergency
15 medical service demand, call volume, and system
16 stress, resulting in periods where all available city
17 ambulances are committed to emergency incidents,
18 requiring mutual aid resources to cover the City of
19 Annapolis; and

20 WHEREAS, the Annapolis Fire Department has
21 repeatedly identified the need for additional staffing,
22 including the implementation of a Peak-Time Medic
23 Unit, to improve unit availability, and better serve the
24 citizens and visitors of Annapolis; and

25 WHEREAS, numerous operational analyses,
26 incident data, and documented periods of ambulance

27 shortages have demonstrated the need for increased
28 staffing and resources within the Annapolis Fire
29 Department; and

30 WHEREAS, the members of Annapolis
31 Professional Firefighters IAFF Local 1926 have
32 consistently advocated for staffing improvements that
33 would enhance public safety, improve emergency
34 response capabilities, and better protect the
35 community; and

36 WHEREAS, despite repeated presentations
37 regarding operational challenges, ambulance
38 availability concerns, increasing EMS demand, and
39 staffing shortages, Alderman Rob Savidge has
40 repeatedly failed to support efforts to improve
41 staffing within the Annapolis Fire Department; and

42 WHEREAS, during consideration of the City of
43 Annapolis budget, Alderman Rob Savidge introduced
44 a budget amendment that would have eliminated
45 funding for the Peak- Time Medic Unit and the
46 associated staffing increases requested by the
47 Annapolis Fire Department; and

48 WHEREAS, the proposed amendment would
49 have directly reduced the City's ability to provide
50 timely emergency medical services, negatively
51 impacted ambulance availability, and increased the
52 likelihood of delayed transport times to citizens
53 experiencing medical emergencies; and

54 WHEREAS, the proposed amendment was
55 opposed by the Annapolis Professional Firefighters
56 IAFF Local 1926, the Fire Chief, members of the
57 public, and other elected officials who recognized the

58 critical need for additional emergency medical
59 staffing; and

60 WHEREAS, when the amendment came before
61 the Annapolis City Council, Alderman Rob Savidge
62 was the sole member of the Council to vote in favor
63 of removing the funding necessary to improve
64 emergency medical service delivery within the City
65 of Annapolis; and

66 WHEREAS, this action by Alderman Rob
67 Savidge demonstrated a disregard for the
68 recommendations of public safety professionals,
69 operational realities faced by emergency responders,
70 and the safety needs of the residents and visitors of
71 Annapolis; and

72 WHEREAS, elected officials entrusted with
73 protecting their communities should support
74 reasonable and necessary investments in public
75 safety, particularly when those investments are
76 intended to address documented service demands and
77 emergency response deficiencies; and

78 WHEREAS, Alderman Rob Savidge's actions
79 have undermined the efforts of Annapolis
80 firefighters and paramedics to improve emergency
81 medical service delivery and have eroded the
82 confidence of Local 1926 members in his
83 commitment to public safety; therefore be it

84 RESOLVED, ~~That the Annapolis Professional~~
85 ~~Firefighters, IAFF Local 1926,~~ That the delegates at
the 58th IAFF Convention hereby formally
86 censures Alderman Rob Savidge for his
87 demonstrated lack of support for the staffing and

88 resource needs of the Annapolis Fire Department
89 and for his attempt to eliminate funding for critically
90 needed emergency medical service staffing
91 improvements; and be it further

92 RESOLVED, That Local 1926 finds Alderman
93 Rob Savidge's actions inconsistent with the
94 principles of supporting first responders, protecting
95 public safety, and ensuring the residents and visitors
96 of Annapolis receive the emergency services they
97 deserve; and be it further

98 RESOLVED, That this Resolution serves as a
99 public declaration that Alderman Rob Savidge's
100 actions regarding fire department staffing and
101 emergency medical service funding have damaged
102 the trust and confidence of the members of Annapolis
103 Professional Firefighters IAFF Local 1926; and be it
104 further

105 RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be
106 transmitted to the Mayor of the City of Annapolis,
107 members of the Annapolis City Council, the Fire
108 Chief of the Annapolis Fire Department, the
109 Professional Fire Fighters of Maryland, all affiliates
110 of the International Association of Fire Fighters, the
111 Anne Arundel County Democratic Central
112 Committee, the Maryland Democratic Party, and the
113 Democratic Municipal Officials of Maryland.

Submitted by: IAFF Local 1926, Annapolis Professional
Firefighters

Cost Estimate: **None**

Annual or Perpetual Designation: **N/A**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt as Revised
CONVENTION ACTION: