

THE FANTASTIC FOUR WHO VOTED AGAINST SB 946

As everyone knows by now SB 946 passed the House of Delegates and the Senate. Every meeting we have had this year, the lawyer has updated us about the twists and turns of the six house bills and the two senate bills. Well they could not have chosen a harsher slap in the face to all us retirees who worked for and counted on this benefit. SB946 totally eliminates the State RX plan and replaces it with another program that requires that we pay for our own medications and hope that the state will put a procedure in place that will pay us back. So essentially, they are shifting the expense of the drug coverage from the State to us. If we can't pay for the medications in the first place, some of us will have to hock everything to live for a little while before dying. What I didn't understand is how AFSCME could support this bill. It was the death knell for current employees. Isn't that who they represent?

Lastly Out of 188 legislators how many legislators do you think voted against this bill? Four! It was easier to list the people who voted against this terrible bill then the legislators who did. There were only four! It's a sad day when you find out that your years of service, your dedication, your life means nothing to the people we pay to represent us. With that said I would like to thank the four delegates who voted against this bill: **Delegate Lauren Arikan; Delegate Paul Corderman; Delegate Daniel Cox; and Delegate Johnny Mautz.**



Delegate Lauren Arikan
Baltimore/Harford County



Delegate Paul Corderman
Washington County



Delegate Daniel Cox
Frederick County



Delegate Johnny Mautz
Carol. Dorch. Wicomico

That's it. That's all. Everyone else voted to eliminate your state RX drug program and make you pay the prescription costs of Medicare Part D. Question, if they don't have the funds to pay for the State coverage now, where will the funds come from to reimburse State Retirees later? This deal was all about keeping their triple A bond rating – not about keeping their promises. Don't be discouraged. Stay strong, Stay positive, Stay focused. We will win this war.

Remember – WE MATTER
Ken Fitch