

SB 176 - SLEOLA Testimony.pdf

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State Law Enforcement Officers Labor Alliance

January 14, 2021

The Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chairman, Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**Re: SB 176 - Income Tax - Subtraction Modification - State Law Enforcement Officers
SUPPORT**

Dear Chairman Guzzone:

Good afternoon Chairman and members of the committee. I am Veronica Bruns, a Corporal with the Maryland Natural Resources Police, and the Treasurer of the State Law Enforcement Officers Labor Alliance (SLEOLA) which is the exclusive representative for approximately 1,800 active state law enforcement officers.

I am here to testify in support of SB 176. Recruiting and retention continues to be a struggle for our state law enforcement agencies. In order to recruit and retain the most qualified law enforcement candidates, state law enforcement agencies must be competitive with their benefits package.

Senate Bill 176 would provide a potential benefit for our state law enforcement officers already extended to our law enforcement peers in the counties, municipalities, and the Maryland Transportation Authority Police.

Having our state law enforcement officers living in high crime areas serves as a deterrent to criminals, and makes the neighborhoods they reside in safer. I would like to thank the sponsor of this bill, and would ask the committee for favorable support of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Veronica Bruns
Treasurer

cc: Members, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

MTA Position on SB176-21 - Income Tax Subtraction.

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M a r y l a n d Troopers Association



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January 14, 2021

The Honorable Guy Guzzone, Chairman and Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

RE: SB 176 Income Tax - Subtraction Modification - State Law Enforcement Officers

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Maryland Troopers Association (MTA) has a membership strength of approximately 2,629 members of which 1,120 are active sworn Troopers involved in traffic and criminal enforcement throughout the State of Maryland.

Current law provides a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for certain law enforcement officers to include law enforcement officers who reside in the political subdivision in which the law enforcement officer is employed with a crime rate that exceeds the State's crime rate.

SB176 has been introduced by Sen. Ben Kramer simply adds State law enforcement officers to this section of the tax code.

Maryland State Troopers are integral members of the law enforcement community in Maryland. Given the role that our Maryland State Troopers perform in the public safety of our counties and state we feel that this small change is warranted and justified.

Therefore, the Maryland Troopers Association strongly supports SB176 and request a favorable report.

Brian Blubaugh
President
Maryland Troopers Association

Member of National Troopers Coalition
1300 REISTERSTOWN ROAD, PIKESVILLE, MARYLAND 21208 (410) 653-3885 1-800-TROOPER
E-mail: info@mdtroopers.org