



BALTIMORE COUNTY
FEDERATION OF
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
AFT / AFL - CIO / BCFPE Local #4883

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RE: FAVORABLE- HB735: Income Tax Subtraction Modification - Correctional Officers, Law Enforcement Officers, and Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Services Personnel (Hometown Heroes Act)

Chairwoman Kaiser and Honorable Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

My name is John Ripley and I am the President of The Baltimore County Federation of Public Employees who represent approximately 500 active and retired Correctional Officers in Baltimore County. Over the years we have witnessed these hard-working men and women perform countless acts of sacrifice and bravery. As Correctional Officers these men and women perform the difficult tasks that a police officer, paramedic, firefighter, social worker and a psychologist does daily. Keeping these public safety minded citizens in our communities is beneficial to all people who live in those communities. This decrease in the age a resident to become eligible from 55 to 50 years old is much needed for our retired Correctional Officers. This age change is crucial in insuring that retired residents from Maryland stay in Maryland instead of changing residence to a more tax friendly state.

Because of this we urge you to support HB735. This is a much-needed addition to the subtraction modification and is much needed for our retiring Correctional Officers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

President John Ripley

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