

JACK BAILEY
Legislative District 29
Calvert and St. Mary's Counties

Budget & Taxation Committee



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
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Senate Bill 588 – Income Tax – Subtraction Modification – Public Safety Employee Retirement Income

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to introduce Senate Bill 588. This bill would increase the maximum value of the income tax subtraction modification for public safety employee retirement income from \$15,000 to \$20,000.

Last session, the General Assembly passed legislation which increased the deduction for military retirement income received by individuals who are at least 55 years old to \$20,000. Prior to passage of this bill, the subtraction modifications for military retirement income and public safety retirement income were the same, \$15,000. Senate Bill 588 is intended to match this increase to the deduction for public safety retirement income.

I believe that every Marylander deserves an income tax-free retirement. This will continue to move us towards this goal while recognizing the important work that our public safety retirees have done and will continue to do for our State. We want our hometown heroes to stay in Maryland when their work protecting our residents is done, and Senate Bill 588 will help incentivize these retirees to remain here. We also know that there is an economic benefit to keeping public safety retirees in our State, as many of these people still have so many skills to offer our communities to continue their good work after they retire as volunteers or in other jobs protecting our citizens.

I respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 588. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Bailey'.

Senator Jack Bailey