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## Testimony

### **SB 269 – Income Tax Subtraction Modification – Correctional Officers, Law Enforcement Officers, and Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services Personnel**

AFSCME supports SB 269. We represent Correctional Officers and Juvenile Services employees who would be impacted by this legislation.

This legislation would allow a qualified individual to become eligible for the income tax subtraction to retirees between the ages of 50 and 54. This is important because the Correctional Officer Retirement System allows retirement after 20 years. While few take advantage of this shorter retirement eligibility time, having it available would at least bring the income tax subtraction in line with the potential retirement by age 50.

Correctional Officers and Juvenile Service employees in comparable positions put their lives on the line every day. They endure short-staffing, rough treatment by inmates, and incredibly long hours caused by mandatory overtime. Studies have shown that their life span is shorter than average as a result of the stresses of their job.

For these reasons we urge you to support SB 269.

Every AFSCME Maryland State and University contract guarantees a right to union representation.  
An employee has the right to a union representative if requested by the employee.  
800.492.1996

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