## MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Representing the Volunteer Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services Personnel www.msfa.org



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Madam Chair Kaiser

Vice Chair Washington

SUPPORT OF HB 350 – INCOME TAX SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION – CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS, LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, AND FIRE, RESCUE, AND EMERGENCY SERVICES PERSONEL (HOMETOWN HEROES ACT)

Good afternoon Madam Chair Kaiser, Vice Chairman Washington and members of the House Ways and Means Committee.

My name is Johnie Roth, Jr. and I chair the Legislative Committee of the Maryland State Firemen's Association (MSFA), and I am writing in SUPPORT of House Bill 350 sponsored by the Administration and many others.

The MSFA is a statewide organization representing over 25,000 volunteer fire, rescue, emergency medical technicians, and paramedics and 363 member companies.

The volunteer firefighters and rescue workers of Maryland work side by side on a daily basis with our Career Firefighting brothers and sisters as well as our Law Enforcement Officers and are pleased to support the proposed legislation before you today. Firefighters as well as Law Enforcement Officers are two thankless jobs in the world today and take special talents to do both jobs. Constant training is paramount to the successes of a fire or rescue incident and these men and women are some of the best in the country.

We as volunteers of the Fire and Rescue Services of Maryland are proud to work, rain, and even put our lives on the line with our counterparts on the career side of this family of professionals. It is for these reasons and more that we support the "Hometown Hero's Act"

Madam Chair the MSFA is submitting Support of HB 350 and respectfully requests a FAVORABLE REPORT for HB350.

Thank you and we'd be glad to answer any questions that you may have.

Johnie F. Roth, Jr. MSFA Chairman Legislative Committee