



## THE AMERICAN LEGION

Department of Maryland  
Legislative Commission  
6600 Ronald Road, Unit T2  
Capitol Heights, Maryland 20743

Melvin F. Graves  
Vice Chair

February 16, 2021

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT  
OF HOUSE BILL 951  
INCOME TAX SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION –  
MILITARY and PUBLIC SAFETY RETIREMENT INCOME

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Madam Chair Kaiser and distinguished members of the Maryland House Ways and Means Committee. My name is Melvin F. Graves, Vice Chair of The American Legion Department of Maryland Legislation Commission. We join you today in support of House Bill 951.

The increase in the income tax threshold from \$15,000 to \$20,000 will aid our veterans and first responders by greatly allowing a broader amount of spending dollars to retired men and women who have given a significant of their working lives in service to us. In turn, the additional revenue available will enhance the sales tax base.

The American Legion believes HB 864 especially is realistic during this tragic pandemic period and we humbly ask for a favorable report on House Bill 951 and commend Delegate Washington for his foresight and compassion in sponsoring this valuable legislation.

Sincerely,

*Melvin Graves*

Melvin F. Graves

Copy to: Patrick Guibao, Chair, The Legislative Commission