

# **HB124\_Brooks\_Support.pdf**

Uploaded by: Benjamin Brooks

Position: FAV

**BENJAMIN BROOKS**  
*Legislative District 10*  
Baltimore County

CHIEF DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

Economic Matters Committee

*Subcommittees*

Chair, Public Utilities

Alcoholic Beverages

Property and Casualty Insurance



*The Maryland House of Delegates*

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

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The Maryland House of Delegates  
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Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
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*District Office*  
8419 Liberty Road, Suite B  
Windsor Mill, Maryland 21244-3133  
410-496-4037

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB124**  
**Income Tax- Subtraction Modification for Veterans**

Ways and Means Committee  
January 13, 2022

Chair Atterbeary, Vice-Chair Washington and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you on HB124, Income Tax-Subtraction Modification for Veterans. The purpose of this bill is to allow a \$3,000 subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for Veterans who are discharged or released under honorable circumstances from active military, naval, or air service of the United States, to be applicable to all taxable years after December 31, 2021.

According to the 2020 Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs Annual Report, Maryland is home to nearly 384,662 Veterans, 7% of the state's population.

HB124 provides another way of acknowledging and showing our appreciation for those who have served our country and protected our freedom. Providing this tax benefit to all retired military personnel is a simple and equitable way to honor their service to our country and make Maryland a military-friendly state.

For these reasons, I am requesting a favorable report.

With kindest regards,

Benjamin Brooks

# **HB 124 support letter.pdf**

Uploaded by: George Owings

Position: FAV



*Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs*

*Office of the Secretary*

LARRY HOGAN  
GOVERNOR

BOYD K. RUTHERFORD  
LT. GOVERNOR

GEORGE W. OWINGS III  
SECRETARY

January 10, 2022

The Honorable Vanessa E. Atterbeary  
Chair, Ways and Means  
131 House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairwoman Atterbeary and Members of the Committee,

The Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs supports HB 124, Income Tax – Subtraction Modification for Veterans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "GWO III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

George W. Owings III  
Secretary

GWO:kss

**2022HB124ARP.pdf**

Uploaded by: Karen Kalla

Position: FAV



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aarp.org/md | md@aarp.org | twitter: @aarpm  
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HB 124 Income Tax – Subtraction Modification for Veterans  
Ways and Means Committee  
SUPPORT  
January 13, 2022

Good Afternoon Chairman Atterbeary and Members of the Ways and Means Committee. I am Larry Walton, Veteran, Member of AARP, and resident of Ocean Pines, Maryland. AARP Maryland is one of the largest membership-based organizations in the state, encompassing over 850,000 members. **AARP MD overwhelmingly supports HB124 Income Tax – Subtraction Modification for Veterans.**

AARP is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, nationwide organization that helps people turn their goals and dreams into real possibilities, strengthens communities and fights for the issues that matter most to families such as healthcare, employment and income security, retirement planning, affordable utilities, and protection from financial abuse.

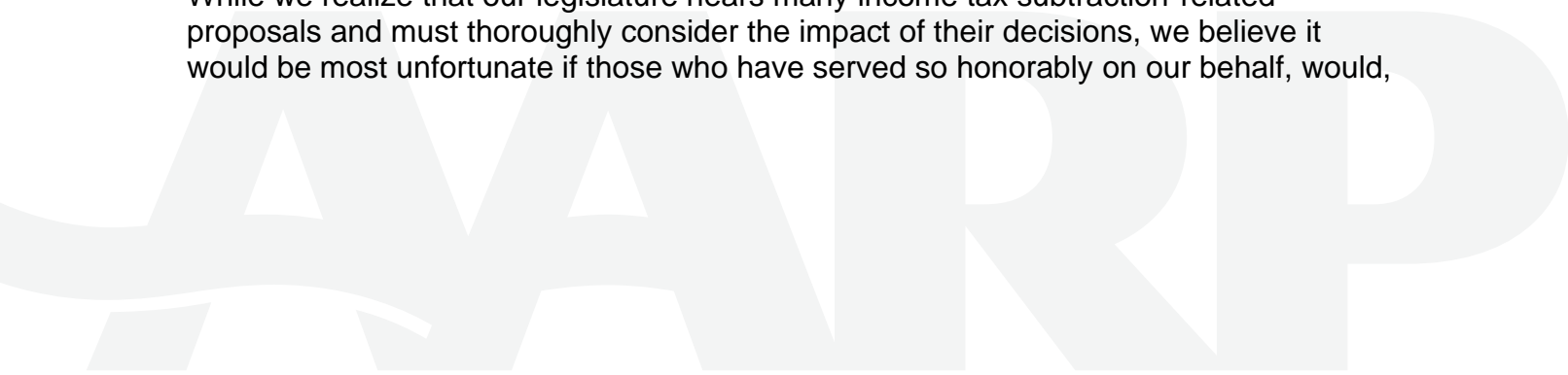
HB 124 would allow a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for certain veterans who are honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances from active military, naval, or air service of the United States. As you may know, this bill would allow honorably discharged Veterans to subtract \$3,000 from their federal adjusted gross income to determine their Maryland adjusted gross income

AARP Maryland supports this initiative as it:

- Honors the Service of our military Veterans through affording a state income tax subtraction;
- Acknowledges their sacrifice by noting that their income represents a small return given that it is earned through the selfless investment of decades of often hazardous service; and
- Makes Maryland a more attractive retirement option for those who have served.

AARP Maryland believes that supporting House Bill 124 is a solid economic move for all Marylanders, not just for our deserving Veterans. We believe that their decades of challenging service devoted to protecting our freedoms and ensuring our safety merit this income tax subtraction.

While we realize that our legislature hears many income tax subtraction-related proposals and must thoroughly consider the impact of their decisions, we believe it would be most unfortunate if those who have served so honorably on our behalf, would,



in retirement, choose to live in a different state, due to a more favorable treatment on retirement benefits earned through their service.

AARP believes we must honor the service and acknowledge the sacrifice of our Veterans. House Bill 124 does so, by providing greater economic viability for an honorably discharged Veteran.

We respectfully request a favorable report for House Bill 124. For questions or additional information, please feel free to contact Tammy Bresnahan, Associate State Director of Advocacy at [tbresnahan@aarp.org](mailto:tbresnahan@aarp.org) or by calling 410-302-8451.

# HB 124.pdf

Uploaded by: Patrick Guibao

Position: FAV





## MARYLAND MILITARY COALITION

*Serving Veterans through Legislative Advocacy*

January 11, 2022

Honorable Vanessa Atterbeary  
Chairwoman, The Maryland House of Delegates  
Ways and Means Committee  
131 House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis MD 21401-1912

Dear Chairwoman Atterbeary and Honorable Members of the House Ways and Means Committee:

House Bill 124 before your committee on January 13, 2022, is a valuable measure to aid and enhance the economic wellbeing of our veteran community in Maryland.

This measure would provide all who have served our state and our nation and who, in some unfortunate cases returned with debilitating injuries, with additional funds for essential everyday needs as well as means to plan for the future.

In the analysis provided for HB 537 the predecessor to the legislative proposal before you now, drafted in 2019, the Fiscal and Policy Note stated no similar tax subtraction modification is in existence. Your approval of this bill would be meaningful to those who sacrificed a part of their life in service to their country.


The Maryland Military Coalition, a voluntary, non-partisan organization representing 17 veteran service organizations who, in turn, serve over 150,000 former military men and women throughout our State urgently ask for a favorable report on House Bill 124 and applaud Delegate Brooks for his commitment to the veteran community to enjoy a better life.

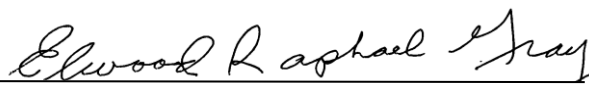
Yours, respectfully

Patrick J. Guibao  
Vice President and Legislative Director

## Member Organizations, Maryland Military Coalition

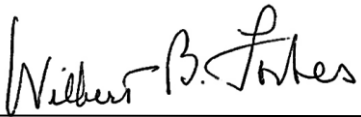
  
Air Force Sergeants Association

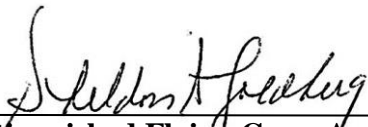
  
American Military Society

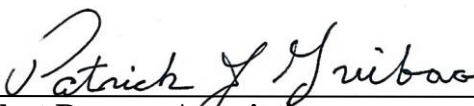
  
American Minority Veterans Research Project


  
Association of the United States Navy


  
Commissioned Officers Association of the  
US Public Health Service

  
Disabled American Veterans

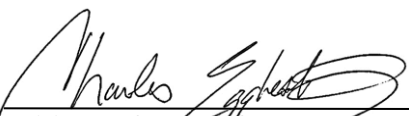
  
Distinguished Flying Cross Association

  
Fleet Reserve Association

  
Jewish War Veterans of the USA

  
Maryland Air National Guard Retirees'  
Association

  
Military Officers Association of America

  
Military Order of the Purple Heart

  
National Association for Black Veterans

  
Naval Enlisted Reserve Association

  
NOAA Association of Commissioned Officers

  
Society of Military Widows

  
Veterans of Foreign Wars

**HB0124-WM\_MACo\_OPP.pdf**

Uploaded by: Kevin Kinnally

Position: UNF



## House Bill 124

### *Income Tax – Subtraction Modification for Veterans*

MACo Position: **OPPOSE**

To: Ways and Means Committee

Date: January 13, 2022

From: Kevin Kinnally

### Tax Incentives and Local Government Autonomy

**Counties are eager and committed partners in promoting economic growth and creating opportunity – and prefer local autonomy in determining the best way locally. The Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) opposes state-mandated reductions in local revenue sources, but county governments welcome flexible and optional tools to serve and react to local needs and community priorities.**

The General Assembly routinely considers broad or targeted tax incentives to stimulate economic growth, encourage beneficial activities, or attract and retain residents. These proposals sometimes focus exclusively on the state's tax structure, but often extend to local revenues as well.

In general, MACo stands for local self-determination. Counties, led by locally elected leaders directly accountable within the communities they serve, are best positioned to govern local affairs – ranging from land use to fiscal matters. MACo steadfastly guards this local autonomy and consistently advocates against one-size-fits-all policies that override local decision-making.

State tax incentives should be enacted as "local option" offerings to allow counties maximum flexibility in tailoring local policies to meet local needs and priorities. The State and its local governments already work together here – where the State routinely grants a state-level property tax credit, but then enables county governments to enact their own as a local option.

MACo urges the Committee to primarily consider state income tax credits as the best means to incorporate local tax relief as part of a broader policy. MACo and county governments stand ready to work with state policymakers to craft flexible and optional tools to deliver broad or targeted tax incentives, but resist state-mandated changes that preclude local input.