

Written Testimony in support of House Bill 189
Income Tax – Subtraction Modification –
Retirement Income
Ways and Means Committee

Dear Chairman Atterbeary, and members of the House Ways and Means Committee.

Please accept my written testimony in support of HB0189, **Income Tax – Subtraction Modification – Retirement Income**. I am an advocate for small and minority owned entrepreneurs. These are often one person operations. They do not have the benefit or access to Qualified Pension programs or TSAs or Deferred Compensation plans. For those who have planned for retirement and many unfortunately have not, their primary savings vehicles are traditional individual retirement accounts, simplified employee pensions, Keogh Plans and rollover 401k's.

The trend toward self-employment is increasing. According to a 2015 Pew Research Study, three- in-ten U.S. Jobs are held by the Self Employed and the workers they hire. There were about 44 million “contingent workers,” meaning “agency temporary workers (temps), direct-hire temps, on- call workers, day laborers, contract company workers, independent contractors, self-employed workers, and standard part-time workers.”

As you deliberate on this bill consider the men and women who will benefit. I have a neighbor who farms, provides lawn care and landscaping for a living. He has assumed the family business. He has never worked in corporate America or in government. He has no access to a defined pension plan. He is fast approaching the age of retirement. I ask you why shouldn't he have the same tax benefit as those who chose a different career path?

Thank you for allowing me to submit my written testimony and I ask you to vote in favor of this bill. With kindest regards,

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