

**SenatorBailey\_FAV\_SB61.pdf**

Uploaded by: Jack Bailey

Position: FAV

JACK BAILEY  
*Legislative District 29*  
Calvert and St. Mary's Counties

Budget & Taxation Committee



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

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January 19, 2023

**Senate Bill 61 – Property Tax Credit – Public Safety Officer**

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to introduce Senate Bill 61 - Property Tax Credit – Public Safety Officer, which would give local governments the authority to determine which public safety officers are eligible for local property tax credits in their jurisdiction.

In the 2019 Legislative Session, I sponsored a bill that expanded eligibility for this property tax credit to volunteer emergency medical technicians (EMTs). Following passage of that bill, I heard from other law enforcement officers who are employed by the State and are not currently included in the list of public safety officers eligible for this credit.

Under current law, counties and municipalities can give a property tax credit to a firefighter, emergency medical technician, correctional officer, police officer, or deputy sheriff employed full time by a public safety agency in the county or municipality where the individual resides. This existing property tax credit authority is also available for volunteer firefighters and volunteer emergency medical technicians for a public safety agency in the county or municipality where the individual resides. Senate Bill 61 repeals this existing definition of “public safety officer” and instead allows counties and municipalities to expand this eligibility to whoever they define by law to be “public safety officers.”

Senate Bill 61 also repeals an existing \$2,500 limit on the amount of the property tax credit that may be provided by local jurisdictions. This property tax credit is granted at the discretion of the county or municipal government. There is no state fiscal impact, and the impact on local governments is limited to those who choose to implement this credit.

This bill is identical to Senate Bill 132 from last year which passed this Committee unanimously and the Senate 43-0. I respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 61. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Bailey', written over a horizontal line.

Senator Jack Bailey

**MTA Favorable SB61 1-19-2023.pdf**

Uploaded by: Jenna Massoni

Position: FAV



# M a r y l a n d Troopers Association



INCORPORATED 1979

January 19, 2023

The Honorable Guy Guzzone, Chair and Members of the Budget & Taxation Committee

**RE: SB 61 - Property Tax Credit - Public Safety Officer**

**POSITION:            SUPPORT**

The Maryland Troopers Association (MTA) has a membership strength of approximately 2,629 members of which 1,120 are active sworn Troopers involved in traffic and criminal enforcement throughout the State of Maryland.

Current law authorizes a county or Baltimore City to grant a property tax credit to law enforcement personnel living and working in that jurisdiction. A Maryland State Trooper's jurisdiction crosses county borders as Troopers patrol and work around the state. The barrack that a Trooper works out of often changes over the course of their career. Regardless of where a Trooper may be working around the state they are also a significant part of the community in which they live.

SB 61 has been introduced by Senator Jack Bailey to authorize counties and Baltimore City to provide the property tax credit to active Maryland State Troopers living in that jurisdiction regardless of where in the state they may be working at that time.

Given the role that our Maryland State Troopers perform in the public safety of our counties and state we feel that this small change is warranted and justified.

Therefore, the Maryland Troopers Association strongly supports SB 61 and request a favorable report.

Brian Blubaugh  
President  
Maryland Troopers Association

**CalvertCounty\_FAV\_SB0061.pdf**

Uploaded by: John Norris

Position: FAV



**CALVERT COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

175 Main Street  
Prince Frederick, Maryland 20678  
410-535-1600 • 301-855-1243  
www.calvertcountymd.gov

*Board of Commissioners*  
Mark C. Cox Sr.  
Catherine M. Grasso  
Earl F. Hance  
Mike Hart  
Todd Ireland

January 13, 2023

The Honorable Senator Guy Guzzone, Chair  
Budget & Taxation Committee  
3 West Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: SB0061 – Property Tax Credit - Public Safety Officer

Senator Guzzone:

The Board of County Commissioners for Calvert County writes to **SUPPORT SB0061**. As enabling legislation, this Bill affords the jurisdiction awarding the credit to define the public safety officers eligible for the credit and removes the current cap of \$2,500 per annum. Its passage affords the local jurisdiction flexibility to attain goals and objections in a manner that is affordable and targeted.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact County Administrator Julian M. Willis at 410-535-1600, extension 2202 or County Attorney John Norris at 410-535-1600, extension 2566. Thank you for your kind consideration of our position regarding this important Bill.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND

Handwritten signature of Earl F. Hance in blue ink.

Earl F. Hance

Handwritten signature of Mike Hart in blue ink.

Mike Hart, Vice President

Handwritten signature of Mark C. Cox Sr. in blue ink.

Mark C. Cox Sr.

Handwritten signature of Catherine M. Grasso in blue ink.

Catherine M. Grasso

Handwritten signature of Todd Ireland in blue ink.

Todd Ireland

cc: The Honorable Senator Jack Bailey

# **SB 61 testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Robert Phillips

Position: FAV

# MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

REPRESENTING THE VOLUNTEER FIRE, RESCUE, AND EMS PERSONNEL OF MARYLAND.



**Robert P. Phillips**

**Chairman**

Legislative Committee

17 State Circle

Annapolis, MD 21401

email: rfcchief48@gmail.com

cell: 443-205-5030

Office: 410-974-2222

## SB 61: Property Tax Credit – Public Safety Officer

My name is Robert Phillips and I am the Legislative Committee Chairman for the Maryland State FireFighters Association (MSFA)

I wish to present testimony in favor of **Senate Bill 61: Property Tax Credit – Public Safety Officer**

This legislation modification would move to the local jurisdiction the means to define a "Public Safety Officer" for the purpose of determining who can receive a property tax credit, how much it is to be, for how long it will last and how to earn it. We feel that this allows the local jurisdiction to determine how best to apply this for the their communities.

I thank the committee for their time and attention to this important bill and ask that you vote favorable on Senate Bill 61.

My contact information is listed above and welcome any further inquiries you might have.