



Fraternal Order of Police
Montgomery County Lodge 35

Phone 301.948.4286
Fop35mail@Fop35.com

February 21, 2023

TESTIMONY

LEE HOLLAND, PRESIDENT, MONTGOMERY COUNTY FRATERNAL ORDER OF
POLICE LODGE 35

HB618 - PROPERTY TAX CREDIT – DWELLINGS OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS –
RETIRED PERSONNEL

FAVORABLE

Dear Chair Atterbeary and honorable members of the House Ways and Means
Committee:

On behalf of Montgomery County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 35 and our more than
1400 active and retired Montgomery County Law Enforcement Officers, I write in strong
support of HB618, addressing necessary parity in eligibility criteria for Public Safety
Officers utilizing the existing property tax credit for law enforcement.

Specifically, HB618 adds retirees to the existing class of Public Safety Officers who
qualify for the dwelling tax credit, administered by Maryland counties and municipal
corporations. As President Biden just recognized in signing the Wally Bunker
Healthcare Enhancement for Local Public Safety (HELPS) Retirees Improvement Act of
2023, in order to assist retiree Public Safety Officers with their health care costs, HB618
recognizes the similarly extraordinary burden that homeownership presents to many
retiree Public Safety Officers. In fact, this tax credit is significantly more meaningful to
retirees on fixed incomes than it is for officers engaged in full time employment.

For these reasons, we thank Delegate Pruski for sponsoring HB618, and we ask for a
favorable committee report.

Respectfully,

Lee G. Holland
President
Montgomery County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 35