



Statement of Maryland Rural Health Association (MRHA)

To Ways and Means Committee

Chair: Delegate Vanessa E. Atterbeary

February 13, 2024

House Bill 0626: Income Tax - Subtraction Modification - Public Safety Volunteers

Position: Support

Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and members of the committee, the Maryland Rural Health Association (MRHA), is in SUPPORT of House Bill 0626: Income Tax - Subtraction Modification - Public Safety Volunteers.

Volunteers are the backbone of the rural communities across Maryland. Firefighters and EMS personnel provide essential services to communities. This legislation only reinforces their commitment to public safety by increasing their tax incentive. We know that the healthcare fire and ems volunteer workforce is decreasing yearly, which can help recruit and retain public safety professionals. We urge a favorable report.

*On behalf of the Maryland Rural Health Association,
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<https://timeforge.com/blog/what-is-workforce-readiness/>