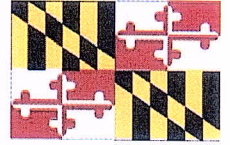




CLYDE BOATWRIGHT
STATE PRESIDENT

Maryland State Lodge
FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

8302 COVE ROAD, BALTIMORE, MD 21222



KENNY SCHUBERT
SECRETARY

EARL KRATSCH
TREASURER

February 13, 2024

HB 714 - Income Tax - Subtraction Modification – Public Safety Employee Retirement Income

Dear Chair Atterbeary and Distinguished Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

The Maryland State Fraternal Order of Police **SUPPORTS** House Bill 714 - **Income Tax - Subtraction Modification – Public Safety Employee Retirement Income.**

House Bill 714 will provide an increase to the allowed amount that can be subtracted from the Federal adjusted gross income from an employee retirement system that is attributable to service as a public safety employee, if the income is received by an individual who is at least 55 years old on the last day of the taxable year.

The enactment of **HB 714** would create a modest increase from the current \$15,000 subtraction to a subtraction of \$20,000. A **FAVORABLE** vote on **HB 714** would continue to show the support of the State of Maryland to its Public Safety retirees and further incentivize them to maintain their residence in the State of Maryland. Currently, due to retirement tax incentives of some of our surrounding states, our members frequently change residency to locations outside of Maryland after retirement in order to take advantage of the lower taxes applied to their retirement income. This Bill will go a long way towards continuing to encourage our Police Officers who have worked their entire career in Maryland to continue to reside here after their retirement.

On behalf of the more than 20,000 Courageous Men and Women of the Maryland Fraternal Order of Police we thank you for your support and ask for your **FAVORABLE** vote on **House Bill 714 - Income Tax - Subtraction Modification – Public Safety Employee Retirement Income.**

Angelo L. Consoli Jr,
2nd Vice President, FOP, Maryland State Lodge
President, FOP Lodge 89, Prince George's County