

GARY SIMMONS
Legislative District 12B
Anne Arundel County

Judiciary Committee
Subcommittees

Criminal Law and Procedure
Family and Juvenile Law



The Maryland House of Delegates
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 13, 2024

RE: Testimony in Support of HB646 - Subtraction Modification for Qualifying Police Auxiliary or Reserve Volunteers

Dear Chairman and members of the committee,

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for House Bill 646 which seeks to increase a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for individuals who are qualifying police auxiliary or reserve volunteers. I firmly believe that this proposed legislation is both necessary and commendable for the following reasons.

First and foremost, the commitment and sacrifice demonstrated by police auxiliary and reserve volunteers are invaluable to our communities. These individuals willingly dedicate their time and efforts to support law enforcement, often without the same level of compensation and benefits as full-time officers. HB646 recognizes the significance of their service by proposing an increase in the subtraction modification, which is a fair and just acknowledgement of their contributions to public safety.

The proposed modification not only serves as a form of recognition but also provides tangible support to those who selflessly volunteer their time to enhance the security and well-being of our neighborhoods. By offering a more substantial subtraction modification, HB646 not only acknowledges the financial challenges faced by these dedicated individuals but also encourages others to consider engaging in volunteer service for the greater good.

Moreover, this legislation aligns with the broader societal goal of fostering positive relationships between law enforcement and the communities they serve. By incentivizing and supporting police auxiliary and reserve volunteers through enhanced tax benefits, HB646 contributes to a sense of community and shared responsibility for public safety.

In conclusion, I strongly urge you to support and advocate for the passage of HB646. This legislation not only recognizes the essential role played by police auxiliary and reserve volunteers but also demonstrates a commitment to supporting those who generously give their time and skills to enhance the safety and well-being of our community.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your dedication to the betterment of our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gary Simmons", written over a horizontal line.

Delegate Gary Simmons