



MARYLAND SOCIETY OF ACCOUNTING AND TAX PROFESSIONALS

10451 Mill Run Circle #625
Owings Mills, MD 21117

1-800-922-9672
410-876-5998

FAX 443-881-4146
www.msatp.org

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Donya S. Oneto
President

Ann F. Elliott
1st Vice President

Hannah Coyle
2nd Vice President

Ellen S. Silverstein
Secretary

Michael S. McIlhargey
Treasurer

Sean D. Coggins
Delegate

Matthew T. Eddleman
Delegate

Nicole Moore
Delegate

John Salan
Delegate

Christopher Williams
Delegate

Barbara J. Smith
Past President

Bob Medbery
Board of Trustees Delegate

Giavante' Hawkins
Executive Director

January 13, 2025

Honorable Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Maryland General Assembly
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Senate Bill 30 - Income Tax – Subtraction Modification – Public Safety Employee Retirement Income

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

The Maryland Society of Accounting and Tax Professionals, Inc. (MSATP) represents the voices of over 2,000 tax and accounting professional members. Our members, who are tax and accounting professionals, serve over 700,000 Maryland residents. We must respectfully oppose Senate Bill 30, which would increase the pension exclusion for retired public safety employees from \$15,000 to \$20,000.

While we deeply respect the service of our public safety employees, this legislation raises significant concerns about tax policy equity and fiscal responsibility. The proposed increase creates an unjustified disparity between different types of retirement income and could set a precedent for other occupation-specific tax benefits.

Our analysis suggests this change would complicate tax preparation and planning, particularly for retirees with multiple income sources. The bill's fiscal impact would reduce state revenues without clear evidence of economic benefit. Furthermore, the broader implications for Maryland's tax structure and long-term fiscal health deserve more careful consideration.

For these reasons, we urge an unfavorable report on Senate Bill 30.

Respectfully submitted,

Giavante' Hawkins

Giavante' Hawkins

Maryland Society of Accounting and Tax Professionals

