



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HB 590 - Income Tax - Subtraction Modification - Public Safety Employee Retirement Income

House Ways and Means Committee

Tuesday, January 21, 2025 1:00 PM

9-1-1 Specialists are the critical link between 9-1-1 callers and public safety responders (law enforcement, fire-rescue, and emergency medical personnel). 9-1-1 Specialists remain in constant contact with the Incident Commander and other emergency responders throughout the incident, ensuring effective on-scene response, coordination, and timely resolution.

HB590 would make 9-1-1 specialists eligible for the retirement income tax subtraction modification other public safety employees are currently eligible for.

These individuals face intense trauma from their work, with their rate of PTSD around 20%¹. As the first line of response when an individual is in need of assistance during an emergency, the critical decisions made in responding to emergencies are life-saving. These individuals are dedicated to public safety, and this is an opportunity to show we are grateful for their service.

I urge the committee to give a favorable report on HB 590.

¹ Management: 911 for emergency dispatchers. icma.org. (n.d.).
<https://icma.org/articles/pm-magazine/management-911-emergency-dispatchers>