

Testimony For SB0185

Honorable Senators

Please enter a favorable report for SB0185.

I support altering the amount allowed as a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for certain retirement income attributable to an individual's employment as a public safety employee.

On the surface, increasing the subtraction modification from \$15,000 to \$20,000 seems to be a modest increase for safety officers who spent many years toiling at a relatively low paying, dangerous job. Upon retirement, property taxes have increased, utility costs have sky rocketed, and many basic fees such as car registration and emission testing have gone up. It seems the least we can do to support their service to the State.

Everyone seems to support the idea, but those that testified against the bill did so because they believed it was too costly to pass or created inequity among other retiree groups

Even though some may believe the cost is too prohibitive and some retirees are getting different levels of subtraction modification, I believe we should make this change to show our appreciation to the retired safety officers who did a dangerous, thankless job many of us would not do, even if the pay and work conditions were much better than what they experienced.

Please enter a favorable report for SB0185.

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