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Cecil and Harford Counties

Ways and Means Committee

Subcommittees

Election Law

Local Revenues



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
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**Subtraction Modification - Public Safety Retirement Income**

Thank you, Chair Wilkins, Vice Chair Feldmark, and Members of the Committee. It's great to be presenting here today.

For the record, my name is Delegate Mike Griffith, and I'm requesting a favorable report on H.B. 0002, the *Subtraction Modification - Public Safety Retirement Income*.

H.B. 0002 increases the maximum value of the income tax subtraction modification for public safety employees' retirement income from \$15,000 to \$20,000 who are at least 55 years old.

As you recall, three years ago this committee passed H.B. 554 that increased the deduction for military retirement income received by individuals who are at least 55 years old to \$20,000. I was honored to support this adjustment as this is something I have championed for many years. This bill will simply bring public safety employees into line with that adjustment. Furthermore, with us facing a structural deficit and the need for long-term sustainable revenue sources being at the forefront, this bill, if passed, will serve as an incentive for public safety employees to make Maryland their forever home. In doing so, those qualifying under this extension will be lifelong contributing members of our communities and will bolster the tax and revenue base throughout the State, thus providing stability of revenue sources. So not only will H.B. 0002 put a little extra into the pockets of families during these hard economic times but by making this adjustment, we will be investing in our State's future. We want our hometown heroes remaining in Maryland and investing and stimulating their communities, and H.B. 0002 provides a simple incentive for them to do just that.

In closing, I would like to share H.B. 0002 is crossfiled with Senator Jack Bailey. Thank you for your time, and I request a favorable report on H.B. 0002.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Griffith'.

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Delegate Mike Griffith  
District 35A, Cecil and Harford Counties  
Vice Chair, Maryland Veterans Caucus, Maryland General Assembly-House of Delegates