

# MARYLAND STATE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

*Representing the Volunteer Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services Personnel  
-a 501(c)3 Organization*



## **Legislative Committee**

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## **SB 148: Income Tax - Subtraction Modification - Public Safety Employee Retirement Income (Supporting Our 9-1-1 Specialists Act)**

I am Chief Robert Phillips, Legislative Committee Chair for the Maryland State Firefighters Association (MSFA)

I wish to present testimony in support of **Senate Bill 148: Income Tax - Subtraction Modification - Public Safety Employee Retirement Income (Supporting Our 9-1-1 Specialists Act)**

The MSFA is in support of this bill. The MSFA looks at the 9-1-1 Specialist as the "first" First Responder. They are the first person to have contact with a caller who is in need of assistance on what is most likely a bad day. The specialist gathers valuable information and passes it to the responders in route to assist the caller. They stay on the line and try to keep the caller calm and assured that help is on the way to make a bad situation better. It is for their dedication and assistance as the "first" First Responder that we feel they are deserving of the income tax subtraction.

The MSFA asks that you return a FAVORABLE report on SB 148. Thank you and I would be glad to answer any questions you might have.

Respectfully:

*Robert Phillips*

