

HOUSE BILL 350

Q3

0lr0178
CF SB 269

By: **The Speaker (By Request – Administration) and Delegates Adams, Anderton, Arentz, Arian, Buckel, Chisholm, Ciliberti, Corderman, Cox, M. Fisher, Ghrist, Griffith, Hartman, Howard, Jacobs, Kipke, Kittleman, Krebs, Long, Malone, Mangione, Mautz, McComas, McKay, Metzgar, Otto, Parrott, Pippy, Reilly, Rose, Saab, Shoemaker, Szeliga, and Wivell**

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2020

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Income Tax Subtraction Modification – Correctional Officers, Law Enforcement**
3 **Officers, and Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Services Personnel**
4 **(Hometown Heroes Act)**

5 FOR the purpose of altering the age at which a resident is eligible for a subtraction
6 modification under the Maryland income tax for certain retirement income
7 attributable to certain employment; increasing the amount of certain retirement
8 income that is eligible for a certain subtraction modification under the Maryland
9 income tax; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to a
10 subtraction modification for certain retirement income.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – Tax – General
13 Section 10–209
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
17 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article – Tax – General**

19 10–209.

20 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

21 (2) “Correctional officer” means an individual who:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(i) was employed in:

1. a State correctional facility, as defined in § 1–101 of the Correctional Services Article;
2. a local correctional facility, as defined in § 1–101 of the Correctional Services Article;
3. a juvenile facility included in § 9–226 of the Human Services Article; or
4. a facility of the United States that is equivalent to a State or local correctional facility or a juvenile facility included in § 9–226 of the Human Services Article; and

(ii) is eligible to receive retirement income attributable to the individual's employment under item (i) of this paragraph.

(3) “Emergency services personnel” means emergency medical technicians or paramedics.

(4) (i) “Employee retirement system” means a plan:

1. established and maintained by an employer for the benefit of its employees; and
2. qualified under § 401(a), § 403, or § 457(b) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(ii) “Employee retirement system” does not include:

1. an individual retirement account or annuity under § 408 of the Internal Revenue Code;
2. a Roth individual retirement account under § 408A of the Internal Revenue Code;
3. a rollover individual retirement account;
4. a simplified employee pension under Internal Revenue Code § 408(k); or
5. an ineligible deferred compensation plan under § 457(f) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(b) Subject to subsections (d) and (e) of this section, to determine Maryland

adjusted gross income, if, on the last day of the taxable year, a resident is at least 65 years old or is totally disabled or the resident's spouse is totally disabled, or the resident is at least **[55] 50** years old and is a retired correctional officer, law enforcement officer, or fire, rescue, or emergency services personnel of the United States, the State, or a political subdivision of the State, an amount is subtracted from federal adjusted gross income equal to the lesser of:

(1) the cumulative or total annuity, pension, or endowment income from an employee retirement system included in federal adjusted gross income; or

(2) the maximum annual benefit under the Social Security Act computed under subsection (c) of this section, less any payment received as old age, survivors, or disability benefits under the Social Security Act, the Railroad Retirement Act, or both.

(c) For purposes of subsection (b)(2) of this section, the Comptroller:

(1) shall determine the maximum annual benefit under the Social Security Act allowed for an individual who retired at age 65 for the prior calendar year; and

(2) may allow the subtraction to the nearest \$100.

(d) Military retirement income that is included in the subtraction under § 10-207(q) of this subtitle may not be taken into account for purposes of the subtraction under this section.

(e) **(1) [In] SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, IN** the case of a retired correctional officer, law enforcement officer, or fire, rescue, or emergency services personnel of the United States, the State, or a political subdivision of the State, the amount included under subsection (b)(1) of this section is limited to **[the first \$15,000 of]** retirement income that is attributable to the resident's employment as a correctional officer, a law enforcement officer, or fire, rescue, or emergency services personnel of the United States, the State, or a political subdivision of the State unless:

[(1)] (I) the resident is at least 65 years old or is totally disabled; or

[(2)] (II) the resident's spouse is totally disabled.

(2) THE AMOUNT INCLUDED UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(1) OF THIS SECTION MAY NOT EXCEED:

(I) FOR A TAXABLE YEAR BEGINNING AFTER DECEMBER 31, 2019, BUT BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2021, THE GREATER OF 50% OR THE FIRST \$15,000 OF THE AMOUNT OF INCOME THAT IS ELIGIBLE UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION; AND

1 **(II) FOR A TAXABLE YEAR BEGINNING AFTER DECEMBER 31,**
2 **2020, 100% OF THE AMOUNT OF INCOME THAT IS ELIGIBLE UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)**
3 **OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
5 1, 2020.