

ANTONIO HAYES
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Finance Committee



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

January 25, 2022

**Testimony of Senator Antonio Hayes in Support of Senate Bill
251: Income Tax Subtraction Modification for Centenarians**

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee,

Turning 100 years of age and joining Maryland's small group of centenarians is an astounding achievement, and one that should be honored.

Senate Bill 251 will authorize a subtraction modification in Maryland income tax for the first \$50,000 earned by a person who is at least 100 years old. This legislation seeks to recognize our centenarians for the role that they have played in building our society and in enhancing our community well-being. After 100 years of dutifully paying taxes, they have more than contributed their fair share to our State.

According to the Comptroller's office, in the tax year of 2018, Maryland was the host of around 850 taxpayers who were at least 100 years old. Of them, 410 would be eligible for this tax credit. Presently, there is no subtraction modification or similar benefit for Maryland centenarians. Senate Bill 251 seeks to meet this community need and adequately reward the oldest and most deserving Maryland residents.

Our State is obliged to provide for our elderly community. Senate Bill 251 established one common-sense way to give back to those who have played a crucial role in building and maintaining the communities and institutions that make up our wonderful State.

Thus, I urge a favorable report for Senate Bill 251.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Antonio L. Hayes".

Senator Antonio L. Hayes
40th Legislative District - MD