



Testimony in Support of House Bill 1190

**Individual Income Tax - Rates and Rate Brackets - Alterations
House Ways & Means Committee**

Favorable

Theresa Mitchell Dudley, President

Chair Kaiser, Vice-Chair Washington and members of the committee, The Prince George's County Educators' Association (PGCEA) strongly supports House Bill 1190.

The proposed legislation if passed, would reduce income taxes for low- and moderate-income households while raising them for the wealthiest Marylanders. HB 1190 restructures personal income taxes in an equitable matter and would generate significant revenue to improve our schools. By reforming our Tax Code, Maryland would gain an additional \$689 million needed to upgrade Maryland's public schools.

PGCEA represents all "teachers" in Prince George's County Public Schools. We are more than ten thousand classroom teachers, guidance counselors, speech pathologists, media specialists, and other non-supervisory certified educators in the Prince George's County Public School (PGCPS).

Maryland public schools are underfunded by \$2.9 billion annually. The State has fallen behind on these obligations to children in Prince George's County and around the State. Maryland must ensure that the entire Kirwan Blueprint education reform plan is adequately and equitably funded. The Blueprint for Maryland calls for funding to hire and increased pay for our educators, increased investment in Pre-K, and community schools.

PGCEA supports addressing and reforming tax code loopholes to generate funding so we can invest more in our schools and Maryland's future. We urge a favorable report of House Bill 1190.