

140 Main Street Annapolis, MD 21401 800 448 6782 410 263 6600

marylandeducators.org

Testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 46 Corporate Income Tax - Combined Reporting

House Ways & Means Committee February 2, 2023

Samantha Zwerling **Government Relations**

The Maryland State Education Association supports House Bill 46, which enacts combined reporting and ensures that corporations in Maryland are paying their fair share and investing in the state.

MSEA represents 75,000 educators and school employees who work in Maryland's public schools, teaching and preparing our almost 900,000 students so they can pursue their dreams. MSEA also represents 39 local affiliates in every county across the state of Maryland, and our parent affiliate is the 3 million-member National Education Association (NEA).

MSEA supports passage of an adequate, sustainable, predictable revenue stream that will adequately fund both the operating and construction costs of our public schools. A great public school for every child means our students have updated technology, small manageable classes, safe and modern schools, proper healthcare and nutrition, and have highly qualified and highly effective educators. The Blueprint for Maryland's Future outlines improvements to access to Pre-K and Career Technology Education, as well as expansion of the educator workforce and increased salaries to help deliver individualized instruction and recruit and retain the best workforce in the country.

Implementing the Blueprint for Maryland's Future with fidelity and making up for the educational, and social-emotional and behavioral health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic will take considerable resources. As recently described in the Department of Legislative Services' Fiscal Briefing to this committee, the state of Maryland is now better identifying students in poverty. This has led to 34.2% increase or 110,501 students from last year that have been identified as eligible for free or reduced priced meals. This will have a financial impact on the state, as Maryland understands that these students need more resources. The estimated \$120 million per year generated from the implementation of this bill would go a long way in helping fund these resources and the Blueprint in the out-years to ensure Maryland's public schools meet our expectations. HB 46 is part of a funding solution that does not put undue burden on the working people of Maryland.

MSEA urges a Favorable Report on House Bill 46



