

## Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 677 Comptroller - Electronic Tax and Fee Return Filing Requirements

## Senate Budget and Taxation Committee February 14, 2024

**Maryland Rise supports SB 677,** which gradually moves the state to online tax filing, with important exceptions for populations who may face challenges using electronic filing systems.

Moving towards online tax services has many benefits for taxpayers and the state overall. With online services, the Comptroller's office has noted filers will see improved response times, increased access to information, and a reduction in harm from lost or stolen mail. Moreover, the Comptroller's office will save the state resources by making tax filing more convenient, accessible, error-free, and user-friendly. A modern tax collection system is a benefit to all Marylanders.

SB 677 includes important exemptions to online filing for groups who may face challenges with an online system. The legislation creates exemptions for older adults, low-income households, Marylanders with disabilities, and small businesses. This is critically important, as a new tax system shouldn't marginalize populations who are unable to use online services.

Maryland Rise appreciates your consideration and urges the committee to issue a favorable report on SB 677.

Submitted by: Lisa Klingenmaier, Executive Director

Maryland Rise works to promote economic opportunity for all Marylanders.