

SB 528: Income Tax - Credit for Nonpublic School Student Bus Transportation Expenses Senate Budget and Taxation Committee Terps For Bike Lanes – FAVORABLE

February 1, 2024

Chair Rosapepe and Committee Members,

We are writing this testimony in support of SB528. Terps for Bike Lanes is an organization dedicated to enhancing bicycle infrastructure in and around UMD, with a focus on creating a safe and inclusive environment. Terps For Bike Lanes is dedicated to promoting sustainable and alternative transportation methods, including biking. While our primary focus is on creating a bike-friendly environment, we understand the importance of diverse transportation options for all students. SB0528 aligns with our values of promoting accessible and efficient transportation for Maryland residents.

We appreciate the provisions within SB0528 that aim to assist parents or guardians by offering a refundable credit against the State income tax for nonpublic school student bus transportation expenses. This initiative recognizes the financial burden faced by families in providing transportation for their children attending nonpublic schools.

It is noteworthy that SB0528 places a reasonable cap on the tax credit, ensuring fiscal responsibility while still providing meaningful assistance to parents and guardians. We believe that this legislation strikes a balance between supporting families and maintaining fiscal prudence.

While Terps For Bike Lanes primarily advocates for biking and sustainable transportation, we recognize the importance of a comprehensive approach to address the diverse needs of Maryland residents. SB0528 reflects a positive step in this direction by acknowledging the transportation expenses incurred by families with students in nonpublic schools.

Sincerely,

President - Nicholas Marks

Vice President - Olivia Dinkel

Treasurer - Parisi Fida

Secretary - Stefano Raffo

Student Governance Liaison - Ian Gould

Social Media Director - Alexa Moore

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