

Date: March 8, 2024

Committee: Energy, Education, Environment

Bill Title: SB 288 - State Board of Individual Tax Preparers – Sunset Extension

Re: **Favorable**

SB 288 will extend the statutory authorization of the State Board of Individual Tax Preparers, which is set to expire on July 1, 2026, for an additional ten years.

The regulation of registered individual tax preparers is handled by the State Board of Individual Tax Preparers. Maryland requires that an individual who prepares taxes must be registered with the Board unless they are a CPA, an IRS Enrolled Agent, an attorney in good standing, or employees of state, local, and federal government who perform tax return services in accordance with their official duties.

It is necessary to extend the Maryland Board of Individual Tax Preparers for the safety and welfare of all Maryland citizens by ensuring that individual tax preparers are registered and held in compliance by the Board. Currently, the Board is working with the Comptroller and various industry stakeholders to identify any fraudulent preparers and enforce the laws of the state.

The Department respectfully requests a favorable report by the committee on SB 288.