

Testimony Against HB1253

Honorable Senators

Please enter an unfavorable report against HB1253.

I am against

- **Establishing the Department of Social and Economic Mobility;**
- providing for the Secretary of Social and Economic Mobility;
- providing the purpose of the Department is to provide support for units of State government, individuals, and businesses **for the maintenance of social equity policies in the State;**
- establishing the Department of Social and Economic Mobility Special Fund; and
- **requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill a certain appropriation from the Transportation Trust Fund to the Fund.**

At a time when the State faces a multi-billion dollar deficit, I believe the State should not be creating a new department for any reason. Supposedly, there is not enough money to fund the departments that already exist.

I believe you should be cutting back the size of the state government instead of finding additional ways to tax us to fund the expansion of the government.

Also, the State should not be funding the increase of social equity policies at a time when the Federal government is threatening to cut back on funding those states that continue to push diversity, equity and inclusion.

Finally, I have heard so much testimony that we need to increase taxing and increase fees because the transportation fund does not have enough money to maintain our roads and bridges. Yet, this bill would rob the transportation fund to pay for this new department.

Please be fiscally responsible and enter an unfavorable report against HB1253

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