



Maryland Municipal League
The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

February 27, 2020

Committee: House Ways and Means

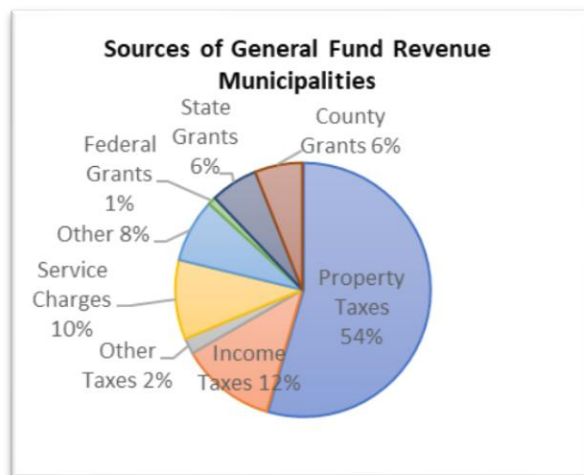
Bill: HB 1106 – Property Tax – Solar Energy Systems

Position: Oppose

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League strongly opposes HB 1106, which would exempt a community solar energy generating system installed on the rooftop of a structure from the county or municipal personal property tax and prohibit the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) from considering the value of income attributable to the installation of a community solar energy generating system when determining a personal property assessment.

As it stands, municipalities are overdependent on property taxes to provide essential services for their residents. Over half of municipal general fund revenues are derived from property taxes, and for some, property taxes account for over 65% of total revenues. Local jurisdictions have little control over the other major sources of revenue, leaving municipalities with few options when fiscal challenges arise. **Maryland's cities and towns are not in a position to exempt an emerging industry from personal property tax.**



Therefore, the League respectfully requests that this committee provide HB 1106 with an unfavorable report.

OVER...

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Scott A. Hancock

Candace L. Donoho

Bill Jorch

Justin Fiore

Executive Director

Government Relations Specialist

Manager, Government Relations & Research

Manager, Government Relations