



Nick J. Mosby, *President*
Baltimore City Council

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January 26, 2021

To: **Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee**
Re: **SB 133 - Local Tax Relief for Working Families Act of 2021**
Position: **FAVORABLE**

Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe and Honorable Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee,

I am writing to express my support for Senate Bill 133, the Local Tax Relief for Working Families Act. This bill will permit local governments to impose income taxes on a bracketed basis. As the primary sponsor of similar legislation during the 2020 session, I recognized that this approach would give local governments the flexibility to give income tax relief to struggling homeowners without compromising the delivery of vital government services. The months since last session and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic have made me more convinced this is a fairer, better way to assess local income taxes.

As the leader of the Baltimore City Council, I am keenly aware of the competitive disadvantage the city faces when we assess our residents at a rate higher than our county peers. Baltimore City is one of the twelve local jurisdictions that assess the maximum local rate of 3.2%. SB 133 would give us the flexibility to assess our wealthiest residents at a slightly rate, give much-needed relief to our working families, and put Baltimore City on a more equal tax footing with our neighbors.

I want to thank the Budget and Taxation Committee for their attention to this bill and respectfully ask for a **favorable** report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nick J. Mosby".

Nick J. Mosby
President, Baltimore City Council