



**TESTIMONY FOR SB0611
INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX – RATES AND RATE BRACKETS - ALTERATION**

Bill Sponsor: Senator Pinsky

Committee: Budget and Tax

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Cecilia Plante, co-chair

Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of SB0611 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

Our members are very much aware that Marylanders who are at the top of the income scale pay less taxes as a percent of their income than those who make substantially less. The upside-down nature of our tax system must be addressed, not only to get rid of the inequities that cause residents who are struggling to pay more in taxes than those who live comfortably, but also to make sure that Maryland has enough revenue to pay for schools, and other basic services.

This bill will increase rates for people who earn more than \$500,000 from 5.75% to 6% and specifies specific brackets up to \$1,500,000. The highest bracket is 7.5%. We believe that the progressive nature of the brackets is fair and will ensure that those who have more income pay their fair share of taxes.

We support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.