



SEIU MARYLAND & DC STATE COUNCIL

1410 Bush Street, Suite F
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Testimony in SUPPORT HB275 w/ Amendments
Individual Income Tax – Brackets and Rates - Alteration
House Ways and Means Committee
January 28, 2021
1:00 PM

Submitted to Anne R. Kaiser, Chairman
By Terry Cavanagh, Executive Director

SEIU Maryland & DC State Council requests a **Favorable Report on HB 275.**

With over two million members, SEIU is the largest union in North America. We are uniting workers in health care, public services, including in public education, and property services to improve lives and the services we provide. In the Maryland, Washington, DC, and Virginia area, we represent over 50,000 workers.

We are thousands of essential workers in nursing homes, hospitals, schools and public buildings. We are the broad working class. We pay our taxes, whether they be income taxes, sales taxes or property taxes.

We commend Delegate Smith for introducing this legislation. In order to pay for the great education, health care, law enforcement and other services Marylanders want and need, we need to raise greater revenue and do so on the backs of those who can most easily afford it.

For that reason we would amend this bill to keep the current rates for all individual filers with taxable income below \$96,001 and joint fillers below \$144,001. By adopting this bill, as we would amend it, Maryland will have a more progressive and fairer tax system that raises the revenue we need.

Over the past year, during time of great economic anxiety and uncertainty, those with higher incomes have done relatively well, while those of modest incomes have paid the heaviest economic price. This continues a trend we've seen over many years and threatens to become worse. Adoption of this tax bracket change would be one small step while expanding opportunity for thousands of Marylanders, especially our children.

We ask a Favorable Report on House Bill 275 with Amendments. Thank you.