

January 18, 2022

<u>Testimony on Senate Bill 210</u> Tax Credits - Employer-Provided Commuter Benefits - Expansion

Position: Favorable

Maryland Nonprofits is a statewide association of more than 1300 nonprofit organizations and institutions. We urge you to support Senate Bill 210, to expand the coverage of Maryland's incentive for employers to provide commuting opportunities and supports to their employees.

The importance of promoting and increasing alternatives to individual commuting in private vehicles is becoming critical. The environmental impacts of vehicle emissions on both health and climate and the never-ending cost of constantly demanded new or expanded highway lane mileage, all make the reduction of individual commuting a vital policy need.

Senate Bill 210 would expand our existing commuter benefits program to include costs of biking, employer provided car-pooling and subsidies for costs of telework arrangements. The Bill gives our program greater flexibility to encourage additional alternatives to private commuting. At the same time we would point out that it does not increase the per employee 'cap' of the available credit, of \$100 per month per employee.

We urge you to give Senate Bill 210 a favorable report.

