



**Testimony in support of  
House Bill 191: Income Tax – Payments of Fines, Penalties, and Other Amounts –  
Addition Modification**

**Senate Budget and Taxation Committee  
Position: Favorable**

March 29, 2023

Strong Schools Maryland is a network of education advocates dedicated to ensuring the full funding and faithful implementation of the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future. As a member of the Fair Funding Coalition, we are committed to creating a fair and equitable tax system that supports the public services families and communities need to thrive. **Strong Schools Maryland supports House Bill 191**, which if enacted would close a tax loophole created by the 2017 Trump tax bill that effectively rewards businesses that have violated civil or criminal laws by giving them a tax deduction.

The Blueprint for Maryland’s Future envisions a World-Class system of public schools for our state’s students. This only exists if the state produces the necessary funding to implement this vision. House Bill 191 addresses inequity in the state’s rules for corporations and updates Maryland’s tax code, which can also produce revenue for the state’s long-term and future priorities, not the least of which is the full funding and faithful implementation of the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future.

Now is the time to ensure corporations pay their fair share, and now is the time to secure revenue sources that can fulfill the promises of the Blueprint.

**For these reasons, we urge a favorable report on House Bill 191.**

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