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TESTIMONY ON SB 660
The Supporting All Taxpayers Act of 2023

Senate Budget and Tax Committee
March 9, 2023

SUPPORT

Maryland Rise is a non-partisan, not-for-profit organization working to promote economic opportunity for all Marylanders, not just the wealthy and well-connected.

Maryland Rise supports proposals focused on improving Maryland's tax code, and making it easy for taxpayers to file their taxes. Right now, many neighboring states and the District of Columbia have offices within their Comptroller office which function to assist taxpayers, ensuring that those without the resources to hire out their taxes do so correctly. HB 660 would create this in Maryland, taking the burden of compliance off taxpayers, mitigating future problems, and issuing annual reports to identify what was done to improve services.

HB660 will do this by creating an Office of the Taxpayer Advocate within the Comptroller's office, staffed by at least six individuals tasked with providing customer service to taxpayers. They would ensure equitable and easy tax administration, and a place to go for people who feel stuck when trying to pay their taxes. This will align with the best practices of the Federal government, as well as neighboring states, and will be a strong step toward the modernization of Maryland's tax infrastructure.

Therefore, we urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 660