



Hearing Testimony March 29, 2023
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Service Employees International Union, Local 500, CtW, CLC

**House Bill 191 – Income Tax – Payments, of Fines, Penalties, and other Amounts –
Addition Modification**

SUPPORT

SEIU Local 500 represents over 20,000 working people in Maryland, Washington D.C., and Virginia. Our union represents the support staff at the Montgomery County Public School system, Family Child Care Providers, Faculty and Staff at several Maryland colleges and universities, staff at non-profits and many other working people across the region. **We urge a favorable report on House Bill 191.**

SEIU Local 500 supports proposals focused on eliminating loopholes and tax breaks that benefit special interests and fixing our upside-down tax code, which allows the wealthiest individuals to pay the smallest share of their income in state and local taxes. We believe large, profitable corporations should pay what they truly owe in taxes and not expect working families to continue to subsidize more than their share of taxes that support our roads, schools, and infrastructure.

Public opinion polling consistently shows that most Marylanders understand our state tax code is set up to benefit the wealthy and powerful corporations over working families and small businesses. Policies like the one addressed in HB 191 erode confidence public in our tax system and undermine the pride that most people feel in contributing to their communities through taxes.

It is time for every Maryland resident and business to pay their fair share of taxes, especially when critical state needs remain unmet. With a wide range of state services stretched thin, the best way to support families, local businesses, and a healthy economy is to reform Maryland's tax code to make it more effective and equitable.

Therefore, we urge a favorable report on HB 191.

Service Employees International Union, Local 500, CtW, CLC
901 Russell Avenue, Suite 300, Gaithersburg, MD 20879
301-740-7100 www.seiu500.org
Pia Morrison, President