

TESTIMONY FOR HB0142

**More Local Tax Relief for Working Families Act of 2023**

**Bill Sponsor:** Delegate Palakovich Carr

**Committee:** Ways and Means

**Organization Submitting:** Lower Shore Progressive Caucus

**Person Submitting:** Jared Schablein, Chair

**Position:** FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB00142 on behalf of the Lower Shore Progressive Caucus. The Caucus is a political and activist organization on the Eastern Shore, unaffiliated with any political party, committed to empowering working people by building a Progressive movement on the Lower Eastern Shore.

The maximum tax rate that a county may charge on an individual's income will change as a result of this measure from 3.2% to 3.7%.

Taxable income in Maryland. By raising the tax rate on high-income individuals, this bill will allow more counties to offer tax assistance to low- and middle-income residents.

Counties will have more freedom to manage their tax rates and, consequently, their revenue stream. They will also be able to assist individuals who are struggling financially.

It is for these reasons the Lower Shore Progressive Caucus supports this bill and recommends a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.