

TESTIMONY FOR HB0160

More Local Tax Relief for Working Families Act of 2023

Bill Sponsor: Delegate Stewart

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 HB00160 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.

Why would a business increase the cost of long-term care for a person over 85? Either the corporation should not operate in the long-term care insurance market because it doesn't comprehend the market forces propelling it, or it is engaging in unconscionable levels of greed.

Regardless of the fact that long-term care companies are driving some seniors into bankruptcy because to premium hikes while paying bonuses to their management or dividends to their investors, our members believe that you shouldn't be required to pass laws requiring this degree of common decency. We also think that seniors should receive some financial support to help them pay for these premium hikes, and that a tax credit is not only essential but also overdue.

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