



**Statement of Maryland Rural Health Association (MRHA)**

To the House Ways and Means Committee

Chair: Delegate Vanessa E. Atterbeary

January 31, 2023

House Bill 0028: Income Tax – Credit for Caregivers of Senior Family Members

**POSITION: SUPPORT**

Chair Atterbeary, members of the Committee, the Maryland Rural Health Association (MRHA) is in SUPPORT of House Bill 0028: Income Tax – Credit for Caregivers of Senior Family Members

According to data reported by seniorliving.org, it costs \$4,312 on average in Maryland for a caregiver for 22 days (about 3 weeks). We understand that often family members take care of senior members of their family which requires them to often take time off work or spend monies out of pocket for their basic personal and healthcare needs. We know that while families' members taking care of family members would decrease their hired caregiver costs, other costs would occur, and to assist in offsetting those incurred costs we highly encourage an income tax credit for expenses paid or incurred by caregivers of senior family members.

*Sincerely,*

*Jonathan Dayton, MS, NREMT, CNE, Executive Director*

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