

February 20, 2024

Position: SUPPORT

HB 766 Fair Share for Maryland Act of 2024

Budget and Taxation Committee:

Honorable Members of the Legislative Body,

I stand before you today on behalf of Maryland Latinos Unidos (MLU), a coalition dedicated to advocating for the Latino and immigrant communities across our state. Our mission is clear: to address disparities, champion equity, and foster justice for all Marylanders. The "Fair Share for Maryland Act of 2024" embodies our commitment to these principles and presents a significant opportunity to uplift our communities and benefit our state as a whole.

The Latino and immigrant populations in Maryland face unique challenges, including economic disparities, limited access to essential services, and systemic barriers to success. Through collaborative efforts and strategic advocacy, the "Fair Share for Maryland Act" aims to address these issues head-on and create a more equitable and inclusive future for all residents.

One key aspect of this bill is its focus on tax reform, particularly in areas such as estate tax, income tax, and corporate tax laws. By adjusting the unified credit limit for estate tax purposes and expanding eligibility for tax credits, we can ensure that more Marylanders have access to vital financial resources and support. Additionally, the inclusion of certain sales of tangible personal property in the sales factor for corporations will promote fairness and transparency in taxation, benefitting both businesses and consumers alike.

Furthermore, the "Fair Share for Maryland Act" emphasizes the importance of community engagement and capacity building. Through initiatives like collaborative grantmaking, civic engagement, and technical assistance for nonprofit organizations, we can strengthen the infrastructure of our communities and empower individuals to thrive.

In conclusion, I urge you to support the "Fair Share for Maryland Act of 2024" and demonstrate our state's commitment to justice, equity, and opportunity for all. By working together and

standing united, we can build a brighter future for Maryland and ensure that every resident, regardless of background or circumstance, has the chance to succeed. Thank you.

Respectfully, Carlos Orbe, Jr. Communications and Public Affairs Specialist Maryland Latinos Unidos