

BILL#SB0766_AnitaLampel_FAV

Date of Hearing: Feb. 21, 2024

Anita Lampel

Bethesda, MD, 20817

TESTIMONY ON SB# 0766- POSITION: FAVORABLE

Fair Share for Maryland Act of 2024

TO: Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and members of the Budget and Taxation Committee

FROM: Anita Lampel

My name is Anita Lampel. I am a resident of District 16. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB#0766, Fair Share for Maryland Act of 2024.

I am a member of Adat Shalom Reconstructionist Congregation, the Women's Democratic Club of Montgomery County, and a philanthropic organization giving funding to local nonprofits that serve impacted communities. My Jewish values teach me that working for a better community means giving my fair share towards the cost of education, health care, transportation, and a clean environment.

When I moved to Maryland from California seven years ago, I thought I was coming to a state that held progressive values and supported those through policies, such as the Blueprint for Education and reducing the carbon footprint. I have witnessed those policies withering away because of lack of funding. I saw what a stranglehold on tax reform did to public education and infrastructure in California. It was shameful, especially because the impact, AS ALWAYS, fell on poor communities that had no means of raising funds outside the state tax system. Do not let that happen here.

I will be one of those paying the de minimis increase in personal taxes so that children can have the education, clean air, improved environment, and public transportation that they need for their future. I consider it my gift to my grandchildren.

The revised tax structure will be effective, cause no real financial harm to those paying more, and improve everyone's life.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on SB#0766.