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Members of the Way and Means Committee,

Thank you for taking my testimony on HB1515. I am requesting that you oppose HB1515.

As a retired citizen of our beautiful state I am very concerned with the trend of ever increasing taxes. My wife and I live on a fixed income.

The cost of living is just getting to be too much in this state. Our real estate taxes are projected to go up 42% over the next 3 years base on my most recent state assessment. Our Auto and Homeowners insurance is also going up every year. Have you bought groceries lately? A reduction in the sales tax of 1% is insignificant when it comes to changing our cash flow.

Although the intent of any legislation that this revenue stream may try to fund is no doubt well meaning, there comes a time when "the road to hell is paved with good intentions".

If this trend doesn't stop in Maryland my wife and I will be forced to relocate to a state with a more reasonable cost of living. That means you will lose our income taxes and all the spending that our residence in Maryland generates.