



**TESTIMONY FOR HB0218  
INCOME TAX – CREDIT FOR LONG-TERM CARE PREMIUMS (LONG-  
TERM CARE RELIEF ACT OF 2024)**

**Bill Sponsor:** Delegate Stewart

**Committee:** Ways and Means

**Organization Submitting:** Maryland Legislative Coalition

**Person Submitting:** Cecilia Plante, co-chair

**Position:** **FAVORABLE**

I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB0218 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

My long-term care insurance has gone up substantially every year, although there is no change in the benefits I would receive. The company, Genworth, has made a plea for me to cut my benefits drastically in order to avoid most of the increase. I pay a fortune for that insurance and it seems to me that there is an unconscionable amount of greed involved. Genworth is making a fortune from me and many other seniors in this state. They are preying on the residents with fixed incomes and this needs to stop.

Our members believe that you should not have to legislate this level of common decency, but the facts are that long-term care providers are forcing some seniors into bankruptcy over their premium increases while giving out bonuses to their management or dividends to their investors. We also believe that seniors should get some assistance in paying for these premium increases and a tax credit is not only warranted, but long overdue.

We support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.