

Senate Budget and Tax Committee March 5, 2025

Senate Bill 859 - Fair Share for Maryland Act of 2025 Support

NCADD Maryland supports Senate Bill 859, the Fair Share for Maryland Act. This bill would raise at least \$1.6 billion in general fund revenues to address the state's \$3 billion deficit. We know some of its elements are including in Governor Moore's proposed FY 2026 budget as well.

NCADD Maryland believes that closing corporate tax loopholes and adding new upper income tax brackets for the state's highest earners are necessary measures toward balancing the state's budget while maintaining essential services and programs that protect and uplift Marylanders. There are also measures that are more than one-time fixes. These are permanent reforms to the state's tax system to make it more progressive and better meet our growing needs.

Maryland is making headway in reducing the opioid overdose rates. We are investing more in education and support services in our schools. And the issue of housing has become a focal point of the Moore Administration as it is recognized as one of the essential elements to support our workforce and families. This is the wrong time to pull back on any of these investments. The alternative to revenue enhancements are budget cuts, the likes we in Maryland have not seen in decades. With total uncertainty at the federal level with regard to health care, housing, education and more, the Fair Share for Maryland Act is a sensible solution.

The proposals in this bill are common-sense measures that will raise considerable and durable income for the state. We urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 859.