

**Nancy Sonnenfeld**  
**Reisterstown, MD**

## **Testimony in Support of SB 859 – Fair Share for Maryland Act of 2025**

*Presented to the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee*

March 5, 2025

I, Nancy Sonnenfeld, am writing to ask you to support Senate Bill 859: the Fair Share for Maryland Act.

I support this bill because the state of Maryland needs income to support the many services--from public education to transportation to Medicaid--that support our common interests. Services for the differently abled are also very important to me, as my mother was and my niece is severely hearing impaired. In the current political climate, it seems inevitable that Maryland will experience cuts in Federal support to its' programs.

In addition, since 10% of Maryland's workforce is employed by the Federal government, significant cuts to the federal workforce are likely to eat into Maryland's income tax base. These conditions create a need for new state revenue even more critical than at the start of the legislative session. It would sadden me, if instead of finding more revenue, Maryland cut programs that fund the technology and services necessary for a child with a hearing impairment or auditory processing disorder to succeed in a mainstream public school.

I am also outraged that people who are rich have disproportionate and increasing amounts of power. This power is made possible not by the inherent attributes of the wealthiest among us but rather by the vast quantities of available capital that the richest can use to buy influence and shape the very information people access. We must find ways to fight back, including by making sure that in Maryland both wealth and income are taxed as fairly as possible. And yet, in Maryland, the wealthiest among us pay a smaller share of their income in taxes than I do. I believe that corporations and LLCs. should pay their fair share as well.

I ask the committee to take a favorable view of all the provisions of Senate Bill 859 to protect Marylander's high quality of life, and create a more level playing field where everyone is expected to pay their fair share.

Sincerely,

Nancy Sonnenfeld