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

Presented to the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

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My name is Stacey Chambers and I am a resident of District 40. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB 850, the Fair Share for Maryland Act of 2025.

I'm a small business owner; I've run GOGO'S Fashion Truck for 15 years. I'm a one woman show, selling affordable used clothes and accessories out of my school bus as we travel throughout Maryland.

I struggle and fight for every dollar I make. I know most of my customers also struggle so I'm honored to be the business they choose to spend with. I don't just sell clothes, I cultivate community. I'm proud of my small business. I've won awards and inspired many people to start their own business. They saw me living my dream and that inspired them.

The struggles I have are the same as a lot of folks and that's scarcity. People don't always have disposable income. Because they share their stories with me, I undercut myself. I've given people interview clothes for free. I've sold folks inexpensive wedding dresses.

Even though I love my business, I struggle cutting through bureaucracy, like a lot of my community. I had \$600 in late fees this year because I was late paying sales tax. I am my business's bookkeeper, accountant, chief financial advisor, and security officer.

As a small business owner, I wake up every morning thinking about my business. I don't have anyone to push things onto. I am 100% accountable for all my successes and failures. It is frightening and beautiful.

In my years in business, I've heard countless stories from fellow business owners. We have a mutual sense of fairness and accountability. We believe if you're a business located in our state and your business utilizes all the benefits of doing business here, your business should pay its fair share. Me and other small business owners shouldn't be subsidizing bigger businesses that can afford accountants who help them avoid taxes. If they're benefitting from Maryland, They should pay it forward by paying their fair share of taxes.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on SB 859.

Respectfully submitted,
Stacey Chambers

