



Testimony - HB 859, Fair Share for Maryland Act of 2025
Favorable
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
March 5, 2025
Christopher C. Cano, MPA
Director of Political & Legislative Affairs on behalf of SEIU Local 500

Honorable Chairman Guzzone & Members of the Senate Budget & Taxation Committee:

SEIU Local 500 represents over 23,000 workers across Maryland including family child care providers, educational support staff in our K-12 schools, nonprofit workers, and faculty & staff at our colleges and universities. Our members have a role in the lives of Marylanders from cradle to career. They comprise the heart and soul of the working and middle class in Maryland. And, in this economic climate of extreme wealth in the hands of so few, our members often struggle to make ends meet. Therefore, we wish to express our strong support for Maryland Senate Bill 859, the Fair Share for Maryland Act of 2025. This legislation represents a critical step in ensuring that Maryland's tax system is both fair and fiscally responsible, allowing the state to invest in essential services that benefit all residents.

SB 859 takes a comprehensive approach to modernizing Maryland's tax structure by ensuring that high-income individuals and large corporations contribute equitably to our shared prosperity. The bill's key provisions—including adjustments to the Maryland estate tax, reforms to corporate tax apportionment, and targeted increases in income tax rates for the wealthiest earners—will generate much-needed revenue for critical state priorities, such as education, transportation, and social services.

One of the bill's most significant components is the implementation of a Business Transportation Fee, ensuring that large, profitable corporations contribute to the infrastructure they rely on. Additionally, SB 859 strengthens Maryland's Earned Income and Child Tax Credits, helping working families by expanding financial relief for low-income individuals and caregivers. These measures will reduce economic inequality and provide stability for families struggling with the rising cost of living.

By closing loopholes that allow multi-state corporations to shift profits out of Maryland and by adopting a fairer tax structure for top earners, SB 859 will generate sustainable revenue without burdening middle-class and working families. It represents a balanced and forward-thinking approach that allows Maryland to maintain its competitive edge while upholding our shared values of equity and opportunity.

We strongly urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 859.

Thank you for your consideration.

Christopher C. Cano, MPA
Director of Political & Legislative Affairs
SEIU Local 500