Feb. 19, 2025 Dr. Anna Rubin Columbia, MD 21045

TESTIMONY ON /HB1014 - POSITION: (FAVORABLE)

Fair Share for Maryland Act of 2025

TO: Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and members of the Ways and Means Committee

FROM: Anna Rubin

My name is Anna Rubin. I am a resident of District 13. I am submitting this testimony in support of /HB1014, Fair Share for Maryland Act of 2025.

I am writing this email as a passionate advocate of improving the lives of young people in our state. As a Jew and chair of my synagogue's Social Justice Committee, I am specifically writing to you to pass the Fair Share for Maryland Act.

I am deeply concerned that the proposed budget cuts will negatively impact spending on education, social services for young people and their families, and the Juvenile Services Department. In Maryland, giant corporations and the very rich are hoarding so much wealth that many low-income Marylanders can't afford housing, food, or childcare. As Maryland faces a budget deficit, addressing our state's unfair tax system will help to avoid cuts to important programs and services and reduce the economic burden on working class residents. By passing the Fair Share for Maryland Plan, we can ensure that corporations and the wealthiest I% of Marylanders pay their fair share in taxes, deliver tax cuts to help children in poverty, and raise the revenue the state needs to build a Maryland that works for everyone.

Since I am also an advocate for eliminating auto-charging of young people, I see the budget crisis as directly impacting what services DJS needs to provide for young people in their programs.

Please keep the vital safety nets available for everyone in our state and in particular, young people. I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB1044.

Sincerely,

Dr. Anna Rubin

Emerita Prof. of Music, UMBC