



2/12/2025

Re: Support of HB 708 – Earned Income Tax Credit - Individuals Without Qualifying Children - Eligibility

Dear Honorable Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and Members of the Ways & Means Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Maryland Community Action Partnership (MCAP) to urge your support of HB 708: Earned Income Tax Credit - Individuals Without Qualifying Children - Eligibility.

The Maryland Community Action Partnership (MCAP) is a statewide non-profit organization comprised of Maryland's 17 Community Action Agencies, which collectively serve every Maryland county. Community Action Agencies do more than provide assistance—they create pathways for hardworking families to achieve their aspirations, build businesses, and gain self-sufficiency. Rooted in the belief that every family deserves the opportunity to thrive, Community Action works alongside individuals to turn their skills and dreams into lasting economic security.

MCAP supports HB 708 because of its effects for the hardworking Marylanders that our agencies serve.

If passed, the bill would:

- Expand eligibility for the Maryland Earned Income Tax Credit for Individuals without qualifying children by altering the income thresholds at which the credit phases out.
- Provide annual adjustments to the income threshold and phased-out amounts to account for inflation.

The expansion of Maryland's EITC to include Marylanders without qualifying children will allow workers who are working close to full-time, minimum wage jobs, to receive the credit. In contrast, the current eligibility excludes first-time expecting mothers, non-custodial parents, youth aging out of foster care, young veterans, and many others who could greatly benefit from the hand-up that the EITC provides. For these reasons, MCAP urges you to support this critical piece of legislation.

If there is any additional information that I can provide for you as you consider this bill, I would be happy to help. You can contact me at amartin@maryland-cap.org, or by calling 205-757-0764.

Sincerely,

Angela Martin

Angela Martin, Executive Director