

SB0828 – State Finance – Delinquent Federal Funds

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TESTIMONY

SB0828 – State Finance – Delinquent Federal Funds (Federal Obligations Enforcement Act)

Bill Sponsor: Senator Hester

Committee: Appropriations

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Aileen Alex, Co-Chair

Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in support of **SB0828** on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. We are an association of unpaid citizen advocates—individuals and grassroots groups in every district across the state—representing and supporting more than 30,000 Marylanders.

Frankly, the federal landscape has become unpredictable to the point of dysfunction. Though I wish this bill could go further to address the madness at the federal level—the chronic delays, the politicization of routine funding, and the administrative obstacles that undermine state planning, though SB0828 is a necessary start.

Maryland relies on timely reimbursements to operate essential programs—healthcare, transportation, public safety, and emergency response. When those funds are delayed or withheld, the State is forced to absorb costs that were never intended to fall on Maryland taxpayers. SB0828 helps shield Maryland from that instability by giving the State a structured, enforceable process to recover what it is owed.

The bill asserts Maryland’s right to enforce existing obligations and provides a practical means for doing so. The bill authorizes the Central Collection Unit to pursue delinquent federal obligations, establishes procedures for placing liens on federal property located in Maryland, and permits the Comptroller to withhold payments to the federal government when appropriate. These tools strengthen Maryland’s ability to protect its fiscal stability and ensure that federal commitments are honored.

Voters deserve to know that their representatives are taking proactive steps to safeguard Maryland’s financial stability and maintain the continuity of essential services. For these reasons, we respectfully urge a **FAVORABLE** report on SB0828.

SB0828 - cross-filed bill - FAV - Federal Obligati

Uploaded by: Richard KAP Kaplowitz

Position: FAV

SB0828 Crossfiled Bill RichardKaplowitz FAV

03/31/2026

Richard Keith Kaplowitz

Frederick, MD 21703

TESTIMONY ON CROSSFILED BILL SB#/0828 – FAVORABLE

State Finance - Delinquent Federal Funds (Federal Obligations Enforcement Act)

TO: Chair Barnes, Vice Chair Kaiser, and members of the Appropriations Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard K. Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3. I am submitting this testimony in support of cross-filed bill SB#0828, State Finance - Delinquent Federal Funds (Federal Obligations Enforcement Act)

I submitted testimony on the cross-filed bill version heard in your chamber. That was bill HB0706 which did not come out of committee. This is the crossover bill from the other chamber SB0828. I urge you to support this bill which passed the Senate with amendments by the vote of 32-13. Please pass this bill in your committee and in the House and return it to the Senate for final passage.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report and pass cross-filed bill SB0828.