

**SUPPORT**  
**Task Force to Modernize County and Municipal Revenue Structures**  
**House Bill 1142**

**Senate Budget and Taxation Committee**  
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The Maryland State Education Association supports House Bill 1142, which establishes a task force to study and report on revenue options available to local governments.

MSEA represents 76,000 educators and school employees who work in Maryland's public schools and community colleges, teaching and supporting our almost 900,000 K-12 students so they can pursue their dreams. MSEA represents more than 40 local affiliates in every county across the state of Maryland, and our parent affiliate is the 3-million-member National Education Association (NEA).

House Bill 1142 recognizes an important and timely reality: local governments face growing fiscal obligations and structural revenue constraints at the same time that Maryland has made historic commitments to strengthen public education and other essential services. Delivering on the promise of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future requires sustained partnership between the State and counties — and that partnership must include serious consideration of modernized, equitable revenue options.

By establishing a task force to examine local revenue authority and options, HB 1142 creates the space for a thoughtful, data-driven discussion about how counties can responsibly meet their obligations while protecting working families. Importantly, this conversation should include evaluation of progressive tax structures that ask those with the greatest ability to contribute — including large corporations, high-income earners, and owners of multiple residential properties — to play a fair role in supporting the communities in which they operate, reside, and vacation.



Educators see every day what happens when public systems are underfunded: larger class sizes, staffing shortages, aging facilities, and increased strain on student services. At the same time, we know that regressive revenue approaches can disproportionately burden the very families our public schools serve. A comprehensive review of available revenue tools offers an opportunity to prioritize fairness, sustainability, and economic growth alongside investment in education and other local priorities.

House Bill 1142 does not predetermine outcomes. Rather, it establishes a responsible process to identify viable, equitable local revenue strategies that reflect the fiscal realities facing Maryland's counties. MSEA believes that undertaking this review is a necessary step toward ensuring adequate, sustainable, and predictable funding for public education and other critical services.

**For these reasons, MSEA urges a favorable report on House Bill 1142.**