



Testimony - HB 1080, Income Tax - Addition Modifications - Excluded Opportunity Fund
Gains, Foreign-Derived Deduction Eligible Income, and Interest

Favorable

House Ways & Means Committee

February 26, 2026

Christopher C. Cano, MPA

Director of Political & Legislative Affairs on behalf of SEIU Local 500

Honorable Chairwoman Wilkins & Members of the House Ways & Means Committee:

On behalf of SEIU Local 500, which represents over 23,000 public workers across Maryland, we respectfully urge a favorable report on House Bill 1080.

Our members rely on a strong, stable revenue system to fund schools, higher education, and essential public services. House Bill 1080 is an important step toward restoring fairness to Maryland's tax code and ensuring that tax benefits are not disproportionately skewed toward wealthy investors and multinational corporations.

Opportunity Zone tax exclusions and certain federal corporate deductions have failed to deliver on promised community benefits, while draining state revenue that could otherwise support classrooms, public colleges, and critical state and local services. By requiring that these federally excluded gains and deductions be added back for Maryland tax purposes, HB 1080 helps ensure that profitable entities contribute their fair share to the public good.

At a time when Maryland faces ongoing staffing shortages in public education, higher education, and government services, the State cannot afford tax policies that undermine our ability to invest in workers and communities. HB 1080 promotes fiscal responsibility, equity, and transparency in our tax system.

For these reasons, SEIU Local 500 urges a favorable report on House Bill 1080.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Christopher C. Cano, MPA
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SEIU Local 500