



Testimony - HB 926, Income Tax – Individual Itemized Deductions – Alterations  
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 926.

Our members depend on strong, stable public services and a tax system that is fair, progressive, and sufficient to meet Maryland's needs.

House Bill 926 takes an important step toward greater tax fairness by limiting the extent to which high-income taxpayers can deduct real property taxes when calculating Maryland itemized deductions. By capping this deduction at \$10,000 for a limited period, the bill helps ensure that the state tax code does not disproportionately benefit wealthier households at the expense of the public investments that working families rely on.

Maryland faces ongoing and growing demands to fund public education, transportation, health services, and other essential programs. These services are delivered by public workers—many of whom are SEIU Local 500 members—and are vital to the economic stability of our state. Allowing unlimited or excessive deductions for high-dollar property taxes undermines the revenue base needed to sustain these investments and shifts the burden away from those most able to contribute.

Importantly, HB 926 is narrowly tailored and time-limited, applying only to taxable years after December 31, 2024, and before January 1, 2030. This balanced approach allows the General Assembly to address immediate revenue and equity concerns while preserving flexibility for future policy decisions.

SEIU Local 500 believes that a fair tax system is essential to building strong schools, safe communities, and a stable workforce. House Bill 926 advances these goals by promoting equity in the tax code and supporting the public services Maryland residents depend on.

For these reasons, SEIU Local 500 urges a favorable report on House Bill 926.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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