

Better Maryland Schools,

Frederick County, MD

The Honorable Members of the Frederick County Delegation

Maryland General Assembly

Annapolis, Maryland

Re: Support for the Federal \$1,700 Educational Tax Credit

Dear Delegation Members,

On behalf of Better Maryland Schools, we write to express our strong support for the federal \$1,700 tax credit for educational donations, recently introduced by Delegate April Miller, and to urge the Frederick County Delegation to publicly endorse this measure.

This bill isn't about politics — it's about people. It's about the grandmother who gives what she can to help a child read, or the family who donates to support a struggling student. This credit simply says: thank you for caring. It's Washington's way of rewarding generosity, not bureaucracy.

A Simple, Sensible Tax Change

There has been some confusion about what this bill does. It does not create a government voucher program, nor does it divert a single dollar from Maryland's public schools. Rather, it makes a small, technical adjustment to the federal tax code.

Currently, donations to nonprofit organizations are deductible, reducing taxable income before taxes are calculated. The proposed change would make these donations eligible for a federal tax credit, which reduces the final tax bill after income is calculated.

For a typical Maryland taxpayer, this means that a \$1,700 donation to an eligible nonprofit could reduce their federal tax bill by the full \$1,700. That's a dollar-for-dollar credit that encourages generosity — not a drain on public funding.

Why would Maryland turn down a federal program that costs nothing and helps children?

No Impact on Maryland's Budget or the Blueprint for Education

This proposal affects federal taxes only. It does not change Maryland's tax code, and it does not touch the funding formulas that support the Blueprint for Maryland's Future. Every Maryland public school will continue to receive the same state and local funding it does today.

This credit simply empowers individuals and businesses to give more generously to organizations that help students — including those attending public, private, and faith-based schools.

Strengthening Educational Opportunity

If this tax credit becomes law, it would allow us — and other nonprofits across Maryland — to expand our support for students of every background. Imagine one more student walking into class this fall with a scholarship in hand — because a neighbor decided to give. More tutoring. More scholarships. More hope.

A Bipartisan Way to Empower Communities

This bill is good tax policy, good education policy, and good community policy. It respects both the generosity of taxpayers and the autonomy of families. It builds partnerships rather than divisions — public and private, civic and faith-based, all working for Maryland's children.

We respectfully urge the Frederick County Delegation to endorse this legislation. Thank you for your leadership and your continued commitment to Frederick County's students and families.

With appreciation and respect,

Chiara Sandri

Frederick, Maryland