



**Testimony in FAVOR of HB 930
Income Tax – Decoupling From Federal Changes – Education Expenses**

Ways and Means

February 26, 2026

Dear Honorable Chair Wilkins and Members of the Committee,

CASA is a national powerhouse organization building power and improving the quality of life in working-class: Black, Latino/a/e, Afro-descendent, Indigenous, and Immigrant communities. With a membership of over 190,000 members, CASA creates change with its power-building model blending human services, community organizing, and advocacy to serve the full spectrum of the needs, dreams, and aspirations of members. CASA provides multiple education services to youth and adult immigrants in Maryland including college and career readiness, workforce and life skills ESOL, and vocational training.

As a proud member of the Blueprint Coalition, CASA recognizes that one of the most critical responsibilities of the State is to provide free, public education to all children in Maryland. Therefore, **CASA strongly supports HB 930, Income Tax – Decoupling From Federal Changes – Education Expenses** which preserves public dollars for the public good, rather than creating new public subsidies for private schools.

Maryland made a historic commitment through the Blueprint to fully and equitably fund public education. HB 930 makes clear that Maryland will not opt into the federal voucher tax credit program that moves the State in the opposite direction by facilitating participation in a federal tax credit program that gives individuals a dollar-for-dollar tax write-off if they “donate” up to \$1,700 to organizations that give students money for private school tuition. While structured as a tax mechanism, the effect is the same: it redirects public resources toward private education without requiring the same standards of accountability, transparency, or access that apply to public schools.

The Blueprint for Maryland’s Future was designed to ensure equity and accountability in public education. HB 930 ensures that the State will not participate in a parallel and contradictory structure that subsidizes private education without equivalent public accountability and without any requirement to serve all students. At a time when we are working to close achievement gaps and stabilize funding for high-need students, Maryland should be reinforcing its commitment to public schools, not opening the door to policies that weaken that commitment.

House Bill 930 also maintains Maryland's longstanding approach to 529 college savings accounts by decoupling from federal changes that would expand tax advantages for K-12 private school expenses. Families will continue to benefit from college savings incentives without creating new subsidies for private K-12 tuition.

Our state is already facing a tough road ahead for maintaining the public education funding that improves our schools and supports the needs of every student. We should preserve our limited public resources to support schools that are open to all.

For these reasons, CASA respectfully urges the Committee to issue a favorable report on House Bill 930.