



House Ways and Means Committee

March 5, 2026

House Bill 1238 – *Taxation – Ultra-High-Net-Worth Individual Surtax and Wealth Tax*

**POSITION: OPPOSE**

The Maryland Tech Council (MTC), with over 800 members, is the State's largest association of technology companies. Our vision is to propel Maryland to be the country's number one innovation economy for life sciences and technology. MTC brings the State's life sciences and technology communities into a single, united organization that empowers members to achieve their goals through advocacy, networking, and education. On behalf of MTC, we submit this letter of **opposition** for House Bill 1238.

House Bill 1238 proposes a significant surtax on the Maryland taxable income of individuals with a net worth exceeding one billion dollars and a one-time wealth tax on amounts above that threshold, altering Maryland's tax structure in a way that would uniquely target ultra-high-net-worth individuals. The MTC opposes this bill because it would discourage investment, diminish Maryland's competitiveness, and risk driving high-net-worth individuals and the capital they provide to other states.

In an already challenging economic environment, Maryland competes with neighboring states and regions for business investment, innovation, and top talent. The technology sector relies heavily on access to capital individuals who are willing to take risks and commit substantial financial resources to new ventures. Policies that increase the tax burden on wealth and high income can create disincentives for individuals who might otherwise choose to reside, invest, or start companies in Maryland. Instead of encouraging economic growth, innovation, and job creation, this bill would make the State less attractive to people who can provide funding and leadership to growing technology companies.

Maryland's developing technological ecosystem depends on a welcoming business climate, predictable tax policy, and incentives that attract rather than repel investment. Imposing additional tax burdens on ultra-high-net-worth individuals undermines those goals by reducing the State's relative appeal as a place to live, work, and invest. For these reasons, the MTC respectfully opposes House Bill 1238.

**For more information call:**

Andrew G. Vetter  
J. Steven Wise  
Danna L. Kauffman  
Christine K. Krone  
410-244-7000