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**TAAAC**

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## **SUPPORT: Income Tax – Subtraction Modification for Classroom Supplies Purchased by Teachers – Alteration House Bill 478**

Over the course of my 24-year career as an educator, I have certainly spent money out of my own pocket to make sure I had the supplies that I needed for my classroom in order to create positive learning opportunities for my students. I know many of my colleagues have done the same. Often as teachers we end up paying for valuable supplementary materials to enhance the learning experiences of our students. When students need supplies such as notebooks, folders, markers, index cards, paper, or pencils, educators supply them so that students do not go without.

As president of the Teachers Association of Anne Arundel County, I support Senate Bill 262 which expands the tax relief to prekindergarten teachers. As a local affiliate of the Maryland State Education Association, we reiterate their understanding that one bill cannot solve the issue that educators are subsidizing what should be costs borne by their school systems, but we can extend relief to an additional group of educators that make ends meet for their students. This bill does just that.

As educators, we want to help students and will continue to spend our own money as long as our students lack the supplies they need for success in the classroom. The language in the current legislation, as supported by MSEA upon its original passage in 2018, has benefitted a majority of members of our local association, and with the expansion of prekindergarten classrooms thanks to the Blueprint for Maryland's Future, it is only equitable that there be an expansion of the state's subtraction modification to prekindergarten teachers as well.

**I urge a favorable report on House Bill 478.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Kristina M. Korona  
TAAAC President

