

DEL. DANA JONES, DISTRICT 30A
President

DEL. MICHELE GUYTON, DISTRICT 42B
1st Vice-President

DEL. JENNIFER WHITE HOLLAND, DISTRICT 10
2nd Vice-President

DEL. SARAH WOLEK, DISTRICT 16
Secretary



DEL. LINDA FOLEY, DISTRICT 15
Treasurer

DEL. KAREN R. TOLES, DISTRICT 25
Parliamentarian

DEL. JACQUELINE T. ADDISON, DISTRICT 45
At Large

DEL. KYM TAYLOR, DISTRICT 23
At Large

WOMEN LEGISLATORS OF MARYLAND
THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

February 11, 2025

To: Delegate Jheanelle K Wilkins, Chair

Delegate Jessica Feldmark, Vice Chair

Ways and Means Committee

The Maryland Women's Caucus is proud to express its support for **HB 363 – Income Tax – Local Child Tax Credit**.

HB 363 authorizes counties to establish, by local law, a credit against the county income tax for certain dependent children. This legislation provides meaningful financial relief to families navigating the significant costs associated with raising children. By allowing counties to implement a local child tax credit, this bill empowers local governments to directly support working families in their communities.

Maryland families are facing rising costs for housing, healthcare, childcare, and utilities. For many households, particularly those led by women, these expenses create financial strain that affects long-term stability and opportunity. A local child tax credit would help offset these costs, reduce food insecurity, improve housing stability, and create additional room in family budgets for savings and future planning.

Maryland is consistently ranked among the most expensive states in which to raise a child, with annual costs reaching tens of thousands of dollars per dependent. HB 363 is a practical and locally flexible approach to easing that burden. By reducing county income tax liability for families with qualifying dependent children, this legislation supports economic security and promotes healthier outcomes for children and caregivers alike.

This bill aligns directly with the Maryland Women's Caucus's mission to advance policies that strengthen women, children, and families across the State. Financial stability for families translates into stronger communities, improved educational outcomes, and greater long-term economic mobility.

For these reasons, the Maryland Women's Caucus respectfully urges a favorable report on **HB 363**.