

February 26, 2020

**Testimony on SB 717 – Support
Earned Income Tax Credit – Individuals Without Qualifying Children - Eligibility
Budget and Taxation Committee**

Position: Favorable

Maryland Nonprofits urges you to support Senate Bill 717.

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is the largest and most effective anti-poverty tool for Maryland residents, helping more than 400,000 Marylanders make ends meet and putting millions of dollars into local communities. Unfortunately, the EITC still leaves behind many low-income workers who don't claim dependents on their taxes. Legislation under consideration this year would make our EITC as effective for these workers as it is for those raising children.

Right now, someone working full time at Maryland's minimum wage earns too much to qualify for the EITC, unless they are claiming dependent children on their taxes – even though they still don't earn enough to afford housing, food, and other basics.

Senate Bill 717 would increase the maximum income for a single filer to receive the EITC to \$23,540, or about \$11 per hour for someone working full-time.

We urge you to give Senate Bill 717 a **Favorable Report**