



A Union of Professionals  
**AFT-Maryland**

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**Written Testimony**  
**HB 1088 - Effective Corporate Tax Rate Transparency Act of 2020**  
**House Ways and Means Committee**  
**February 25, 2020**

**SUPPORT**

Good afternoon Chair Kaiser and members of the Committee. On behalf of the 20,000 state, municipal, and public education workers residing in Maryland, AFT-Maryland asks for a favorable report for HB 1088 - Effective Corporate Tax Rate Transparency Act of 2020.

AFT-Maryland is a union of professionals that champion fairness; democracy; economic opportunity; high-quality public education; healthcare and public services for our students, their families and our communities. We have historically supported bills such as HB 1088 because of this principle. We believe in order to have a strong democracy that protects the common good, each community must have the proper resources to provide needed services. This means local and state governments, as well as the federal government, should design fair and transparent revenue systems that require corporations to live up to their responsibilities.

Currently, the tax treatment of corporations does not meet this standard. However, this year, with the public having very important discussions on how the state can pay for public education, as well as resources necessary to assure proper staffing in state agencies, passage of bills like these that work to close corporate tax loopholes is vital. According to a study by the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy<sup>1</sup>, Maryland has the 38th most unfair state and local tax system in the country.

It is for these reasons, AFT-Maryland calls for a favorable report on HB 1088.

Marietta English  
President

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<sup>1</sup> Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, "Who Pays? Maryland" (2015)  
<http://www.itep.org/whopays/states/maryland.php>