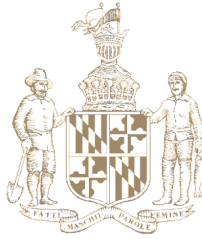


JHEANELLE WILKINS  
Legislative District 20  
Montgomery County

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Ways and Means Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates  
6 Bladen Street, Room 350  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3493 · 301-858-3493  
800-492-7122 Ext. 3493  
Fax 410-841-3445 · 301-858-3445  
Jheanelle.Wilkins@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 2, 2022

**House Bill 992 - Income Tax - Earned Income Tax Credit - Alteration and Sunset Repeal**

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to present **House Bill 992 - Income Tax - Earned Income Tax Credit - Alteration and Sunset Repeal**, which would serve the purpose of altering, beginning with a certain tax year, the percentage of the federal earned income tax credit used for determining the amount that an individual may claim as a refund under the Maryland earned income tax credit under certain circumstances, and generally relating to a credit against the State income tax for earned income.

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is one of the best poverty reducing measures the General Assembly has at its disposal. It has proven itself hugely impactful on economic, behavioral, and health outcomes for low to moderate-income workers, while also providing a strong return on investment to the state. For every dollar the state spends on the EITC, \$1.24 comes back to our local economy as recipients spend it on basic necessities such as groceries, housing, transportation, and debt.

Unfortunately, the current EITC still leaves behind many low-income workers who don't claim dependents on their taxes. HB 992 would help make the EITC as effective for single filers as it is for those claiming dependents by increasing the state credit for single filers to 100% of the federal credit. On average, a single filer would go from an EITC of \$70 to \$375, which could help someone buy books for school, pay for a car repair to get to a better job, pay utility bills, or cover other basic needs.

A tool for income mobility, the EITC keeps low-wage workers engaged in the workforce while allowing them to save money to invest in their education and homeownership. For these reasons, I ask that the committee give a **favorable** report on **House Bill 992**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jheanelle Wilkins'.

Delegate Jheanelle Wilkins