

HB1007_RichardKaplowitz_FAV

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Richard Keith Kaplowitz
Frederick, MD 21703

TESTIMONY ON HB#/1007 – FAVORABLE

Fair Share for Maryland Act of 2024

TO: Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins and members of the Ways and Means Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard K. Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB#1007, Fair Share for Maryland Act of 2024

My Jewish faith tell me (Proverbs 3:27) “Don’t withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in the power of your hand to do it”. Legislators, the power is yours to create income equality in Maryland that will benefit everyone, even those who will now be paying their fair share.

Maryland does not have enough money to pay for vital services and programs. Many wealthy individuals and corporations pay little to no state income taxes. The burden of supporting Maryland then falls on middle- or lower-income individuals and families. This inequality is benefiting the wealthy and corporations at the expense of everyone else in the state.

A study of the benefits of the bill indicates what it should contain and the revenues that will accrue to Maryland when implemented. This bill will require large multi-state corporations to pay their share of state tax through "combined reporting" and revising the "throwback rule" (est. \$135.4 million). It will close the pass-through LLC loophole (est. \$124 million). It will stop ineffective tax expenditures (est. \$617 million). The Fair Share for Maryland Act will restructure personal income tax brackets and rates (est. \$689 million).

The budget shortfalls affect every Marylander and the state and local governments abilities to meet the critical needs of our residents in every area – schools, transportation, climate protection, etc. This lack of tax revenue applied to the services these corporations use such as roads, fire and police protection, an educated workforce, etc. forces the state to tax citizens at the lower end of the income scale.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report and pass HB1007.